

THE TIMES
Tomorrow

English brutality, which led to a decline in the Irish population, has constantly fed the flames of Irish hatred." That at least, was what Hitler's generals were told in the summer of 1940 as they made plans to invade Ireland, the back door of Britain's defences. On the Spectrum page tomorrow, Robert Fisk describes how the Nazis planned "Operation Green".

The Wednesday Page meets Lady Jean Crossman, the master of foxhounds who charged into action when she discovered her local Tory candidate had a wife who was involved with the League Against Cruel Sports.

Two Special Reports look at Hong Kong and the world tea industry.

Unions' pay revolt toned down

Militant trade union leaders agreed on a formula of loyalty to the Shadow Cabinet as election fever affected the Scottish TUC in Rutherglen.

Faced with mounting political pressure, the miners and civil servants toned down a left-wing motion hostile to the prospect of an incomes policy under the TUC-Labour Party economic plan.

Page 2

House prices rise by 5%

House prices throughout the country have increased by as much as 5 per cent, representing the largest surge in demand since 1980, according to the latest residential survey.

Page 3

Gandhi' refusal

Sir Richard Attenborough said that he will not attend performances of his film *Gandhi* in South Africa unless the Pretoria Government opens every performance to all races throughout the film's entire run and that no cinema has to apply for a permit.

Indians flogged, page 6

Oil 'peace'

Two leading oil ministers, Shaikh Yamani of Saudi Arabia, and Dr Odeh of the United Arab Emirates, said that the accord on oil pricing had been a success and the danger of a price war was now over.

Page 15

Wife goes home

Mrs Lorraine Gilmore, the wife of an alleged IRA "supergrass", has returned home to Londonderry after eight months in police protective custody. Her husband is still in hiding.

Page 2

Murder appeal

Paul Vickers, aged 48, the surgeon convicted at Teesside Crown Court in November 1981, of the murder of his wife, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction.

Page 3

Seveso trial off

The trial of five officials charged with responsibility for the Seveso dioxin pollution disaster opened in Italy and was adjourned. The accused were absent.

Page 6

Leaflet request

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is to ask the Government for supplies of its leaflets on the cruise and Trident missiles and the nuclear debate, to send out with CND's own leaflets.

Page 4

Net profit

Tennis players are benefiting financially from tournaments in which they have not competed. Rex Bellamy discusses the dubious distribution of prize money.

Page 25

Squash changes

Revolutionary changes are planned in the sport of squash, with the aim of giving it greater spectator appeal. Among the innovations is a new scoring system.

Page 24

Leader page 13

'Troops were desperately pulling corpses from the rubble'

Blast kills 33 at US Embassy in Beirut

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

America's political honeymoon in the Lebanon came to a savage and terrifying end yesterday when a massive bomb - either hidden in a police vehicle, and detonated by remote control or carried by a suicide bomber in his own car - exploded down part of the United States Embassy in Beirut, slaughtering at least 33 people and wounding another 105. They included senior Embassy staff, American Marine guards and Lebanese civilians who were queuing at the ground-floor visa section when the explosion tore them to pieces.

The bomb was so powerful that the seven-storey central section of the Embassy simply collapsed in a cloud of dust and flames, crushing to death everyone inside. A Lebanese Military armoured vehicle was blown off the coastal boulevard that runs past the building and buried into the Mediterranean while the corps of Embassy staff were tossed 50 feet through the air onto a carpet of rubble and glass outside.

The explosion also blasted the self-confidence - some would say complacency - of the American-organised multinational force in Beirut and destroyed the sense of security that the American presence in Lebanon had given to tens of thousands of Lebanese.

Coming only days after the collapse of the Reagan initiative and at a time when the United States was still vainly trying to secure the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian troops from the country, the bomb was clearly intended to strike at the very heart of President Reagan's Middle East policy.

Only 10 minutes after the bomb went off, an organization calling itself "Al Jihad Al Islami" - "Sainted Holy War" - claimed responsibility for the carnage. An anonymous caller, speaking slowly and in a Lebanese accent, telephoned the Beirut newspaper *Al Liwa* and the Agence France Presse news agency to say that the attack was "part of the Iranian revolution's campaign against the imperialist presence throughout the world".

In fact "Al Jihad Al Islami" is a faction of the Shia Muslim

Continued on page 7, col 6



Early poll call 'would put party first'

By Julian Haviland
Political Editor

If the Prime Minister decides in favour of an early general election, as many of her colleagues in government will consider that her decision has been taken for reasons of political advantage rather than national interest.

An opinion poll taken for Independent Television News on Saturday invited respondents to say whether national interest or the pursuit of political advantage would be in the Government's mind. Nearly two thirds believed it would be political advantage.

Even among Conservative supporters 59 per cent preferred political advantage to national interest as the likeliest motive. Among the Government's opponents the response was even less generous, with 74 per cent of Labour and 73 per cent of Alliance supporters ready to attribute an early election date to political advantage.

At present petrol in the EEC

must contain at least 0.15 grammes of lead per litre, the level to which British petrol will fall early in 1986. The present British level is 0.4 grammes per litre.

Existing car engines can meet the 1986 low-lead requirement but cannot run without lead-based anti-knock compound.

"I think this Royal Commission report has been valuable in cutting through a lot of the propaganda and a lot of the somewhat exaggerated claims of the various lobbyists on the various sides", Mr King said later.

It may be that fear which, to another question, led 62 per cent of Conservative supporters to say that the Government should "carry on" rather than have an early election, which only 28 per cent of Conservative supporters wanted. But among Labour supporters 76 per cent and among Alliance supporters 59 per cent wanted an election soon.

As to voting intention, the ITN poll, in an unusual sequence of questions, found that only 55 per cent of voters had decided which party to support. Among these the Conservatives again had a marked lead of 12 points. The figures were: Conservative 48 per cent, Labour 36 per cent, Alliance 12 per cent.

At Westminster the very low figure for Alliance support was treated with some scepticism.

A more orthodox poll conducted by MORI for the Standard and published yesterday recorded support at Conservative 43 per cent, Labour 34 per cent, Alliance 22 per cent. MORI questioned 1,825 electors on April 7 to 12.

Market report, page 22

All new cars to take lead-free petrol within seven years

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

All new cars will have to run on lead-free petrol by 1990, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday. He was responding to a warning from the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution that the amount of lead in the blood of the "general population" was too close to a potentially dangerous level.

Mr King's statement went further than any previous Government commitment. He said he would like new cars to be able to run on lead-free petrol before 1990, but there were two hurdles to cross before a date could be announced. One

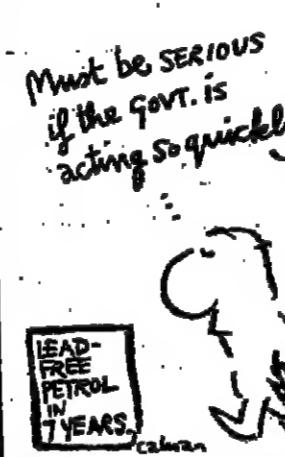
was to persuade the rest of the EEC to change Community rules to allow all member states to change to lead-free petrol, and the other was to agree with car manufacturers a date from which they could fit new models with appropriate engines.

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"I think this Royal Commission report has been valuable in cutting through a lot of the propaganda and a lot of the somewhat exaggerated claims of the various lobbyists on the various sides", Mr King said later.

Mr Des Wilson, chairman of the Campaign for Lead-Free Air (Clear), said: "It is a very exciting and even moving moment to find ourselves vindicated". But he demanded



Continued on back page, col 4

Top-level talks bring peace hope for BL

By Barry Clement

Talks between BL and the leaders of the two main unions involved in the three-week strike at the Cowley plant were adjourned last night until Wednesday.

Mr Harold Musgrave, chairman of the Austin Rover group, said Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and Mr Mostyn Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, would meet at his union's annual conference in Eastbourne, and Mr Evans in Scotland.

But any compromise will have to be put before local union leaders at Cowley and possibly before a mass meeting at the plant before a mass meeting of district leaders.

He said: "I sincerely hope we do not have to dismiss anyone. At this level of talks we should have a successful conclusion."

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Market report, page 22

Intervention call, page 15

Leader page 13

Letters: On films from Mr I. Quinn and Mr M. Hassan; probation, from Lord Wells-Pestell and others; arms, from Dr H. Macdonald.

Leading articles: European and Arab culture; Lead in petrol.

Features, pages 8, 11, 12

A call to speed the ban on petrol lead; Anti-twisting at the Scottish TUC. The controversial archiving of the Tate extension.

Fashion for a rainy day, by Sue Meekins. Spectrum: Getting the Irish out of Ireland.

Obituary, page 14

Dr Ruth Morgan, Mr Gerard Fairlie

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Election fever takes fire out of union attack on Labour's pay policy

From Paul Rouse, Labour Editor, Rothbury

General election fever yesterday overtook the Labour movement's policy on free collective bargaining as militant Scottish trade union leaders agreed on a formula of loyalty to the Shadow Cabinet.

In the face of mounting political pressure, miners and civil servants toned down a left-wing motion hostile to the prospects of an incomes policy under the TUC-Labour Party plan for an annual "national economic assessment".

The Scottish TUC conference will still go on record tomorrow with a declaration of opposition to wage restraint, but by then delegates will have voted unqualified support for the new political accord. *Partners in Rebuilding Britain*.

Moderate leaders of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union (GMBATU) yesterday persuaded the STUC General Council to take over their motion committing Scotland's one million trade unionists to campaign for the return of a Labour government based on the policies contained in the joint document.

Mr David Barnett, general secretary of GMBATU and Mr Campbell Christie, deputy

chairman of the TUC economic committee, argued: "Unity has never been more essential."

Partners in Rebuilding Britain envisages a government-supported extension of collective bargaining which would involve acceptance of a policy on incomes. Mrs Helen Liddell, secretary of the Scottish Labour Party, insisted that the new deal would give the unions enormous power of a kind they had not enjoyed before.

It would give them a say in the allocation of resources within their enterprise, but she gave a warning: "It gives power with responsibility. You cannot accept the rights that power will give you and deny the responsibility."

Labour's priorities were to provide jobs, improve the living standards of the most needy, and to improve the living standards of those in work.

Hostility to wage restraint will resurface tomorrow as the miners seek to recoup as much ground as they can from the "heavy operation" mounted by British TUC leaders to quell what was seen as an embarrassing political revolt.

New deal or no deal? page 12

Firemen threaten to strike

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The likelihood of a series of one-day lightning strikes next week by Britain's 30,000 firemen depends on a government statement which is expected within the next few days on whether ministers are determined to make public service workers pay more for their services.

Firemen, with the police, have been told that from the beginning of next month their contributions to index-linked pensions will be increased by 4 per cent. Leaders of the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) met Home Office officials yesterday to warn them that unless the government backed down the strike would go ahead.

A report of the meeting was given to Mr William Whitelaw,

the Home Secretary, and he is expected to make an early statement on the Government's position. There does, however, appear to be the basis of a compromise in a suggestion that introduction of the 4 per cent increase might be phased over the next year.

The local authorities, who supervise fire service operations, have put forward a suggestion that there should be a 2 per cent increase next month, with a further 2 per cent in November. That has met with the approval of the National Association of Fire Officers and the Chief Fire Officers Association.

It was not clear last night if the compromise would be acceptable to the Government for 10 years.

Labour fears split as Duffy attacks policies

From Barry Clemons, Labour Reporter, Eastbourne

For a serious split in the Labour movement over disarmament and Common Market policies emerged yesterday during Mr Terence Duffy's residential speech to the amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

Mr Duffy, who is on the right-wing of the party, attacked Labour's policy on unilateralism and withdrawal from Europe, two of the key issues on which it hopes to attract external support. His speech will be highly embarrassing to Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, who is to address the conference tomorrow, and is committed to supporting both.

Mr Duffy's remarks on defence were seen as particularly unfortunate by Labour party supporters attempting to promote unity. The Conservatives, in apparent preparation

Ministries criticized

Mr Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General, has criticized three government departments for failing to meet their own standards of control over nationalized industries (our Political Correspondent writes).

A report, which will provide a framework for a Commons public accounts investigation, complains of "substantial deficiencies" in information provided by the National Coal Board, British Telecommunications and the British Railways Board.

Mr Downey said that Department of Energy officials had repeatedly recorded that the information in coal board export plans had been inadequate to assess the plans' viability, but efforts to improve the situation were "slow to bear fruit".

The coal board had also consistently failed to file financial

Tatchell bows out of battle

By Richard Evans

Bermondsey Labour Party, in South London, will this week start the search for a new prospective parliamentary candidate after the decision of Mr Peter Tatchell not to stand.

Mr Duffy told the conference that Britain should contribute to Nato both in terms of conventional and nuclear weapons. "Unilateralism by Britain would weaken Nato and lessen the chances of lasting peace."

On the Common Market he said that trade unions in European companies did not wish Britain to withdraw.

In spite of his attack on the two crucial Labour Party policies, Mr Duffy said that he would be campaigning for a Labour victory.

However, there is no indication that the executive will agree with Mr Duffy's stance in spite of a 33 to 19 right-wing majority.

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Chemist to be top defence scientist

By Peter Hennessy

Professor Richard Norman, an organic chemist from York University, is to be the next chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence. He succeeds Professor Sir Ronald Mason, who returned to Sussex University earlier this year.

The appointment will be announced at the end of the month after positive vetting inquiries are completed and security clearance has been granted.

Professor Norman, aged 50, is expected to take up his appointment full-time in September, after a period of working in the ministry part-time while completing his duties at York. He has no previous Whitehall experience.

The job of chief scientist at the ministry is normally held for five years.

Youth 'put woman's body on railway line'

Mrs Katie Hopkins, aged 36, was murdered on her way home to a midnight rendezvous with a man. Reading Crown Court was told yesterday (Our Reading Correspondent writes).

Counsel said that Mrs Hopkins, an attractive woman, had left her husband at home and was walking to meet Johannes Pfaff, a veterinary surgeon, when the killer struck. She was tripped, strangled and sexually attacked before being dumped on a railway line.

Alan Pinkerton, aged 19, a factory worker of Dunton Way, Iver, Buckinghamshire, pleaded not guilty of murdering Mrs Hopkins last October.

Mr John Morris, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mrs Hopkins was attacked near Iver railway station.

Mr Morris said that when Mr



Flying back to the past

Fifty years ago today two Westland biplanes flew over Mount Everest for the first time.

The photographs taken then and published in *The Times* helped British climbers in their conquest of the mountain two decades later.

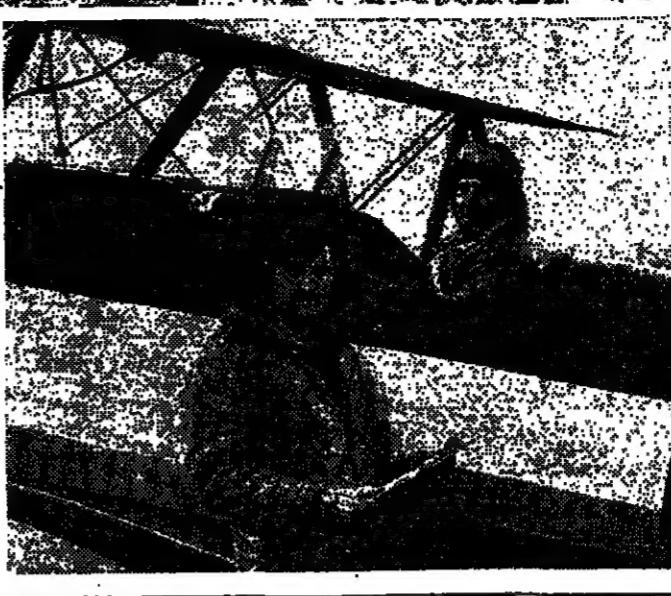
One of those is reproduced above, showing the Houston Westland flying towards Everest, approaching Lohsta, at 32,000ft.

Now two British pilots are preparing to repeat the 1933 flight. Mr George Almond (right, standing) will fly to Nepal next week

to obtain the necessary permissions for the flight, and Mr John Jordan (in the aircraft) will test the Boeing Stearman biplane over Bedfordshire.

Mr Jordan will particularly check supercharger oxygen equipment required to push the aircraft to 30,000ft.

This year's journey, planned for the next few months, will also be photographed and sons of the 1933 airmen will be invited to fly in the camera aircraft and follow in their fathers' footsteps.



Disabled couple can keep child

From Arthur Osman, Lincoln

A severely handicapped couple yesterday won a legal battle to keep their son, aged four and a half months, who had been made a ward of court on the application of Nottinghamshire County Council.

Mr Justice Hollings, sitting at Lincoln, ruled that the baby should be brought up in the care of its parents, who would be supervised by the county's social services department. The child would remain in wardship to prevent any disclosure of identity.

The judge said that the parents had been to an assessment centre at Oxford to see how they coped with the baby. There had also been an independent report by the court welfare officer, noting "great, good and proper love" between parents and child. The judge said he considered it was an acceptable risk to allow the parents to look after him.

The mother, who wept when the judge announced they could keep the baby, said later: "We were told that we were too disabled to look after a child. But I cook and do my own shopping and in the past I have

tests assured them that the risk of having a handicapped child was no worse than for anyone else."

She was then examined by a leading obstetrician and they had 70 hours of counselling by a psychiatrist social worker.

During the four months since the wardship order was made they had had the baby in their care but under the supervision of social and health workers. Before yesterday's hearing both parents voiced their anger about their initial treatment by the social services.

The mother, aged 30, has congenital club foot, and father, aged 34, is confined to a wheelchair with cerebral palsy. They have a joint income of £88 a week from allowances.

The mother said they had taken "extraordinary precautions" to try to ensure their child would be normal, which he was.

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House buying surges to 1980 levels as prices rise by 5%

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

There has been a spring surge in house prices throughout London, the South-east, the South-west, and parts of the North and the Midlands, according to the latest residential market survey.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' monthly report on house prices, published today, shows that two-thirds of estate agents taking part in the survey indicated rises of between 2 and 5 per cent and one in seven say that the cost of houses has increased by more than 5 per cent.

Homes in Greater London and the Home Counties are showing the largest rises, according to the report. An agent in Edmonton, north London, comments that over the last two months property prices have risen by between 5 and 8 per cent.

In Orpington, Kent, lower priced homes are selling for as much as 8 per cent more than at the beginning of the year.

However, it is not only the more affluent Home Counties that are witnessing the upsurge in house prices. In the

depressed West Midlands agents are reporting that the market is more buoyant than for the past two or three years, with shortages of all types of property.

For the first time since the autumn of 1979 the institution says that less than a third of its participating members are reporting no price changes during the last quarter.

A burst of house hunting during March has meant that houses across the country which had been languishing on estate agents' books for up to a year have now come under offer.

In the East Midlands a Hinckley firm commented that several houses which had been on the market for a year or more had been sold.

Demand is generally strongest for pre-1919 terraced houses which are usually sought by first-time buyers.

However, new property estate agents as far apart as Yorkshire and East Anglia are reporting faster sales in the more expensive categories. Agents in York are saying that homes at more than £75,000 are selling well.

Surgeon 'could have simulated suicide'

By David Nicholls-Lord

A surgeon convicted of poisoning his mentally ill wife with a rare anticancer drug could have disposed of her by the much simpler course of writing to the Voluntary Euthanasia Society (formerly Exit), or simulating suicide through an overdose of barbiturates, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Yet Paul Vickers, aged 48, "virtually put his name up in lights" when obtaining prescriptions for the drug CENU, Mr. Gilbert Gray, QC, told the court. There was no attempt to conceal his name or address with a doctor's spidery writing.

"It was virtually a visiting card," Mr. Gray added. "He was running the most enormous peril."

Vickers, formerly head of the accident department at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction at Teesside Crown Court in November 1981, for the murder of his wife. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with a recommendation by Ms. Justice Borcham, the trial judge, that he serve a minimum of 17 years.

The grounds of appeal include alleged defects in the trial judge's summing up of medical evidence and his directions to the jury on the alternative verdict of manslaughter. There is also an application to call fresh evidence from three *News of the World* reporters who interviewed Miss Pamela Collison, Vicker's codefendant, after she was acquitted of murder.

Vickers, of Moor Crescent, Gosforth, was brought from Wakefield prison for yesterday's hearing. Dressed in a dark suit and tie, he betrayed little emotion from the dock, occasionally leaning forward to concentrate on points of evidence.

Mr. Gray said there was no medical evidence that CENU, which is undetectable after death and was used to create in

Closer link for man's two families

By John Knight

Mrs Vickers a bone-marrow disease which destroyed the make-up of her blood, was used at all in 1979 and thus caused her death in June.

If Vickers had warned to murder his wife there were simpler ways for a doctor to dispose of a woman suffering from schizophrenia, depression and a deformed hip and who was taking many drugs.

Mr. Gray described the "sieve mentality" of the Vickers' household and the surgeon's meeting with Miss Collison, aged 33, whom he called a "femme fatale". Miss Collison received a six-month suspended prison sentence on two charges of dishonesty, obtaining the drug.

Mr. Gray said Vickers had a deep affection for his wife but ran the risk of "induced psychosis", a tendency to adopt her schizophrenic symptoms.

His involvement in medical politics led to his meeting with Miss Collison, a political researcher.

The extent to which the pair interacted might never be fully known, but she impressed him with the force of her personality. There was a campaign of blackmail, and Miss Collison kept photocopies of all the prescriptions she obtained.

The firm will "concentrate on the upper price level", Miss Reger said at the shop in Beauchamp Place, Knightsbridge, opened with the help of a bank loan and investments by employees, some of whom are working without wages.

Lord Justice Lawton, presiding, said medical evidence on the use of CENU in 1979 was almost neutral. But he added that if the trial judge had summed up medical evidence wrongly by saying there "must" have been more bone-marrow damage shortly before Mrs. Vicker's death, it would be enough of a slip to make the verdict unsafe.

But Mr. Justice Michael Davies said the trial jury might have thought it was clever of Vicker to use false patients' names on the prescriptions. "He did get away with it quite happily until Miss Collison went to the police," he added.

The hearing continues today.

Hunt man cleared over cat killed by hounds

The whipper-in of the Berkeley Hunt was cleared yesterday of criminal damage and cruelty to a pet cat killed by hounds on a Gloucestershire caravan site.

Magistrates at Whitminster dismissed summonses brought by the owner of the cat, Mrs Dorothy Newman, supported by the League Against Cruel Sports, against Patrick Martin, aged 25, of The Kernels, Berkeley.

The court was told that the hounds mauled the cat to death after they killed a fox they had pursued on to Berkeley Vale Caravan Park on February 27 last year.

Mr. Edward Copley, defending, said Mr. Martin did all he could to stop the pack entering the site and was not aware of the attack on the cat.

The magistrates ordered that the costs of both sides be paid from central funds.

Last December the league persuaded the High Court to overturn the magistrates' original decision not to issue summonses.

Yesterday, Mr. Edmund Lawson, for the prosecution, told the court that Mrs. Christine Wilcox, who lived on the site, snatched the 15-year-old cat, called Bridie, from the hounds, but it died.

Mr. Lawson did not suggest Mr. Martin intended that the cat should be harmed, but he was "reckless" in allowing the hounds into the caravan park.

Mrs. Wilcox, who now lives at Hinmon Court, Berkeley, said she saw about six dogs attacking the cat.

"They were playing tag-of-war with it. I managed to punch one of the dogs on the nose. I grabbed the cat and pulled it away." The cat bit and scratched her as it tried to escape.



Mr. Martin: "Struck in the face".



Mr. Christopher Hughes outside his home in Ponders End, north London (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Driver aims for Mastermind title

By David Hewson

Mr. Christopher Hughes, aged 35, a London Tube driver, will know tonight whether he is the BBC's new *Mastermind*.

But like the other three finalists and the audience, he will be sworn to secrecy about the result, which will be revealed only with the final's transmission on May 8.

Mr. Hughes has established himself as the leading authority on the exploits of Mr. Harry Flashman, the Victorian military hero, sportsman and cad.

His television performance on Sunday night, in which he answered correctly 18 questions about Flashman's en-

chanted, though scurrilous life, astonished Mr. George MacDonald Fraser, the author, who is normally regarded as the leading expert on the character on the wholly understandable ground that Flashman's deeds are his creation.

"I thought he was marvelous", Mr. Fraser said from his home in the Isle of Man. "He got two more answers than I did. I could not remember the name of a woman in the Indian Mutiny and I wrongly anticipated a question about Palmerston meeting Flashman."

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After winning his first heat on British Steam Locomotives 1900 to 1968, a subject to which he will return tonight, he wanted to opt for questions on C. S. Forester's Hornblower books in the semi-final, only to find that they had been selected by another contestant.

At Christmas Mr. Hughes

Warwidows get Labour support for grave visits

By Michael Marshall

The campaign for government assistance to enable war widows to visit the graves of their husbands received a boost yesterday when Mr. Merlyn Rees, the former Home Secretary, said he will press in the House of Commons for the Government to provide facility trips to the graves.

His scheme envisages a start with those widowed in 1914 and allows for a steady progression through the ranks of those who lost servicemen husbands until 1967, when the Government introduced the present policy of providing facility visits to the graves of men who died after that date.

The proposal coincided with an attack on government statistics which according to Ministry of Defence spokesmen make sponsored visits too expensive to entertain. Although there are 64,000 widows of servicemen killed in action before 1967, mostly in the Second World War, it is estimated that fewer than 10,000 would want to make such visits. Allowing for £50 a head, which is regarded as a realistic figure, it would mean a cost to the government of no more than £500,000.

Mrs Iris Strange, the secretary of British War Widows and Associates, the organization which is leading the campaign for visits, said: "If you take into account those who do not want to go, those who have already paid their last respects and those whose husbands' last resting places are not known, you are left with surprisingly few widows."

"Those who wish to go and cannot afford to do so have in many cases spent a lifetime yearning to go and they must be allowed to before it is too late."

Mr. Rees has twice written to Mrs. Margaret Thatcher urging government assistance, but she replied that the numbers would be too large and any scheme too difficult and expensive to organize.

24 new companies make it a record month for Wales.

A spokesman for the Welsh Development Agency said: "We are delighted to welcome these recent arrivals to the Welsh economy."

Good news rarely hits the headlines.

WELSH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

PONTYPRIDD, MID GLAMORGAN CF37 5UT. TELEPHONE: (044 385) 2666. TELEX: 497516.

PARLIAMENT April 18 1983

Politics deprives 'peace' of any charitable status

LEGAL AFFAIRS

After the final decision in the Moonee case it might be necessary to look at the whole position of charity law. Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, said after he had told the Commons that he had made representations for the withdrawal of charitable status on in part of the two charitable trusts associated with the Unification Church.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea, South, Lab) in raising the issue asked: "Does he agree that the law and practice on what constitutes charitable status is confused, that leads to the difficulty of distinguishing between charitable work and lobbying, which leads to the Charity Commissioners having to make difficult judgments, and what results in anomalies such as organizations that want to further peace and disarmament being denied charitable status while it is not denied to organizations such as the British Atlantic Trust?"

Sir Michael Havers: I think the problem is that the Charity Commissioners have to work on existing law. If indeed the law should be changed, if that is the purpose of his question, then that question should be addressed to the Home Secretary.

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton, South, C): Is he aware that the

Chancellor of the Exchequer persistently uses as one of the reasons for not giving exemption from VAT for charities that there are certain charities which are "undesirable", one of those being the Moonees?

In the light of that, will he make strong representations to the Charity Commissioners that they should now have a review of their charities and charitable status in order to resolve this sort of problem?

Sir Michael Havers: The law is not altogether clear and that is why it has been the problem with the two trusts. We have been told that any major change in the charity law would require legislation and that question should be addressed to the Home Secretary.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): Would he not agree that the law is in a state of flux in terms of the various judgments handed down over the years on charitable status? Is it not wrong that the Charity Commissioners should decide what is "political"? They have just become "political" in the sense it was not before.

Sir Michael Havers: The charity law is not in chaos. What has happened is that charity law is of long standing. A lot of the judicial decisions on which the commissioners act are rather old and I think what has happened is that perhaps the law has not kept up with



Dubs: Political judgments lead to anomalies

the change in the way sort of trusts seeing charitable status.

Originally it was intended to deal with major and corrupt misusing charitable funds. After the final decision on the Moonees, it may be necessary to look at the whole position on charity law.

Mr Andrew Dodsden, Opposition spokesman on legal affairs (Aberconwy, Con): Would he not agree that major changes in the charity law would require legislation and that question should be addressed to the Home Secretary.

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suppress the report. It was a forecast only for the next decade.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): While we all wish for a recovery where manufacturing output was at a 17-year low, certainly the worst output record for any Government for a long time? Where was the recovery taking place – in textiles, steel, paper, shipbuilding, or engineering?

Mr Baker: There are unmistakable signs that recovery is taking place. Retail sales are 4.5 per cent higher, and housing starts 30 per cent higher than they were a year ago. Car sales for the first quarter were 21 per cent higher than they were a year ago.

Mr Baker: If we did wish to increase the take-up of steel by the British motor industry the best possible way is to sell more British cars.

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Mugabe flays corruption and plans more socialism for Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Zimbabwe entered the fourth year of its independence yesterday with celebrations across the country, military displays and indications that a more rigorous socialist policy will be pursued in the year ahead.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, attended a rally in Harare at which President Canaan Banana, delivering the key address, said the next year of independence threatened to be "probably the most difficult period we Zimbabweans have yet had to face".

Although Zimbabwe remained one of the most peaceful and stable countries in the developing world there had been a spread over the past year of "cancerous virus" ... the dissident menace, which poses an intolerable threat to our continued peace and prosperity," the President said.

A scheduled display at the rally by the Fifth Brigade, the unit charged with responsibility for recent massacres in Matabeleland was cancelled and substituted by a demonstration of unarmed combat by the new Presidential Guard.

Mr Mugabe has had little to say over the anniversary weekend about the Matabeleland troubles and has concentrated on economic objectives and problems.

In a speech to the nation on Sunday evening he foreshadowed a leadership shake-up with a scathing attack on

corruption and what he termed boorish tendencies in ministry.

In an apparent reference to the recent dismissal of the Midland city of Gweru he attacked "unscrupulous" officials for avarice and misappropriation public funds.

"Even Cabinet ministers

with a more theoretical and thus hypocritical commitment to socialism have, under guise or another, proceeded to acquire huge properties by way of farms and other business concerns," he said.

The severity of Mr Mugabe's words appeared to herald a long-anticipated reshuffle in the Cabinet which, with 32 ministers, is unusually large and costly for a country of Zimbabwe's size and resources.

His utterances in the lead-up to the anniversary also point to a more overtly socialist programme in economic policy.

A professed Marxist, Mr Mugabe has followed a pragmatic economic course in the past three years but on Friday announced plans for large-scale nationalization of industry.

Writing in *Zimbabwe News*, the mouthpiece of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party, he said the Government intended to acquire control of the grain milling, fuel procurement and national transport industries and "many other areas falling under the various economic



Papal greeting: The Pope meeting the Armenian Patriarch Karekin II to celebrate Mass on the outskirts of Rome yesterday.

Korean disco death toll reaches 25

From Jacqueline Reddin, Seoul

Twenty-five South Koreans died and 67 others were injured, most of them teenagers, when fire swept through a disco club every April a third of their passengers outside Zimbabwe.

Although a similar number of Air Force personnel have resigned in previous years, this is the first time so many top-ranking officers have resigned in one batch.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE STRUGGLE OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE FOR INDEPENDENCE

UNESCO House,
Paris: 25-29 April 1983

In defiance of United Nations decisions, human conscience and justice, racist South Africa is still occupying Namibia illegally.

1966

The United Nations terminates South Africa's mandate and assumes direct responsibility over Namibia;

1967

The United Nations Council for Namibia is established as the legal Administering Authority for the Territory until independence;

1971

The International Court of Justice also tells South Africa that it is under obligation to withdraw from the Territory;

1976

The Security Council unanimously calls for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia and for free and fair elections in the Territory under United Nations supervision and control;

1978

The Security Council adopts plan for Namibia's independence;

1983

The Namibian people are still denied their inalienable right to freedom, self-determination and independence.

Under the leadership of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the people of Namibia are waging a legitimate struggle for freedom and independence.

SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA

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The gentle Gandhi forgotten in India

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi

Just after the premiere of Sir Richard Attenborough's film *Gandhi*, in Delhi, the Indian cartoonist R. L. Larson published a drawing of two men emerging from a cinema where the film was showing.

One man is saying: "I understand it is based on a true life story".

There are many Indians who welcome the Attenborough film as a reminder of Gandhi's actions and teachings because they feel that, to some extent, the Mahatma, engineer of India's independence, has been forgotten in his own land.

Many of the young, who have to study his life in school, see him as largely irrelevant in terms of their own ideas about India in the 1980s, a faded and somewhat cranky figure in history.

There are many in the middle classes, especially Westernized people who tend to view him as an eccentric, just as some of his contemporaries did. He was a difficult and irritating man.

Indian feelings about him are so complex and sensitive - a mixture of pride, guilt and embarrassment - that it would be very hard for any Indian to attempt what Sir Richard Attenborough did.

The film has been generally well received in India; but it remains a subject of controversy in the newspapers and in conversation and is the cultural talking point of the year. It has made many reflect on the work of a man they do not know well. Gandhi's image and ideas are often invoked - he was, after all, the father of independent India - but he is something of a totem and there are few who sincerely believe his methods and philosophy have practical application today.

His image is everywhere. Politicians frequently refer to Gandhian principles of self-help, service and humility. A visit to the Mahatma's cremation site in Delhi is obligatory for every visiting foreign notable. Even when bandits surrender publicly to the authorities a picture of the Mahatma is on the surrender platform.

Many politicians wear clothing made of homespun cotton and wool, a tradition stemming from Gandhi's rejection of Western dress;

Gandhi's methods of protest remain popular. "Courting arrest", making a token breach of the law in order to be arrested, is a constantly employed device, and fasting, which has a particular Gandhian symbolism, is frequently used to apply pressure on the authorities.

Gandhi called the untouchables "Harijans", meaning God's Children, and the name has stuck. But treatment of them remains unpleasant and sometimes brutal. Their lot is very slowly improving, but attitudes to them remain largely unchanged. It was a part of the Indian granite that Gandhi never chipped.

Gandhi is consigned to history in the Indian mind as an enigmatic and idiosyncratic man, a shrewd politician who saw how the British sense of justice could be exploited and knew, as they did, that the game was up in India.

His steady defiance of authority is remembered, but his gentler ideas are largely forgotten. He wanted the humble spinning wheel, which was his symbol, to be the device on India's national flag. But India chose the powerful wheel device of the Emperor Ashoka.

The commission was formed



Private visitor: Mrs Thatcher receiving Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, at Downing Street yesterday.

Reprisals feared as Libyans go on trial

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

The trial opened here yesterday of two Libyans accused of torturing their fellow-countrymen in West Germany against a background of intensive efforts by Bonn to free eight Germans held in Libya as hostages.

Dr Mustapha Zaidi, aged 31, and a student, Abdullah Yahia, are accused of causing bodily harm, unlawful imprisonment and coercion.

The prosecution maintains that on November 13 and 14 the two men tortured two students in the Libyan People's Bureau - the equivalent of an embassy - in Bonn, threatening them with forcible removal to Libya and death because of their contacts with Libyan opposition figures.

Dr Zaidi has been in custody since March 29, and Mr Yahia since April 5. Their trial opened amid strict security precautions, but was adjourned after a few hours as counsel for Mr Yahia

demanded more time to discuss the matter with his client.

Meanwhile, Herr Hürgen Möller, the Deputy Foreign Minister, briefed Dr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, on his talks in Libya with Major Abdal Salam Jallouli.

Herr Möller flew there on Saturday to try to secure the release of eight German businessmen who have been detained on unspecified charges in clear reprisal for the arrest of the Libyans in West Germany.

Some 3,000 Germans are working in Libya, where a big public campaign has opened against the Federal Republic in connection with the trial in Bonn. There is clear concern here that if the two Libyans are found guilty, the Germans will be used as hostages in the same way as American diplomats were in Tehran.

Pope tells rich to give more to Third World

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Pope bluntly told the 300 members of the Trilateral Commission in an audience at the Vatican yesterday that they all came from rich countries and therefore bore the responsibility for encouraging people to face up to their duty of international solidarity.

His steady defiance of authority is remembered, but his gentler ideas are largely forgotten. He wanted the humble spinning wheel, which was his symbol, to be the device on India's national flag. But India chose the powerful wheel device of the Emperor Ashoka.

Their discussions were closely connected with man's future and so they would constantly find themselves facing the frontiers between technology and ethics.

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The Pope bluntly told the 300 members

10,000 Israelis demonstrate against Nablus expansion

From Christopher Walker, Nablus

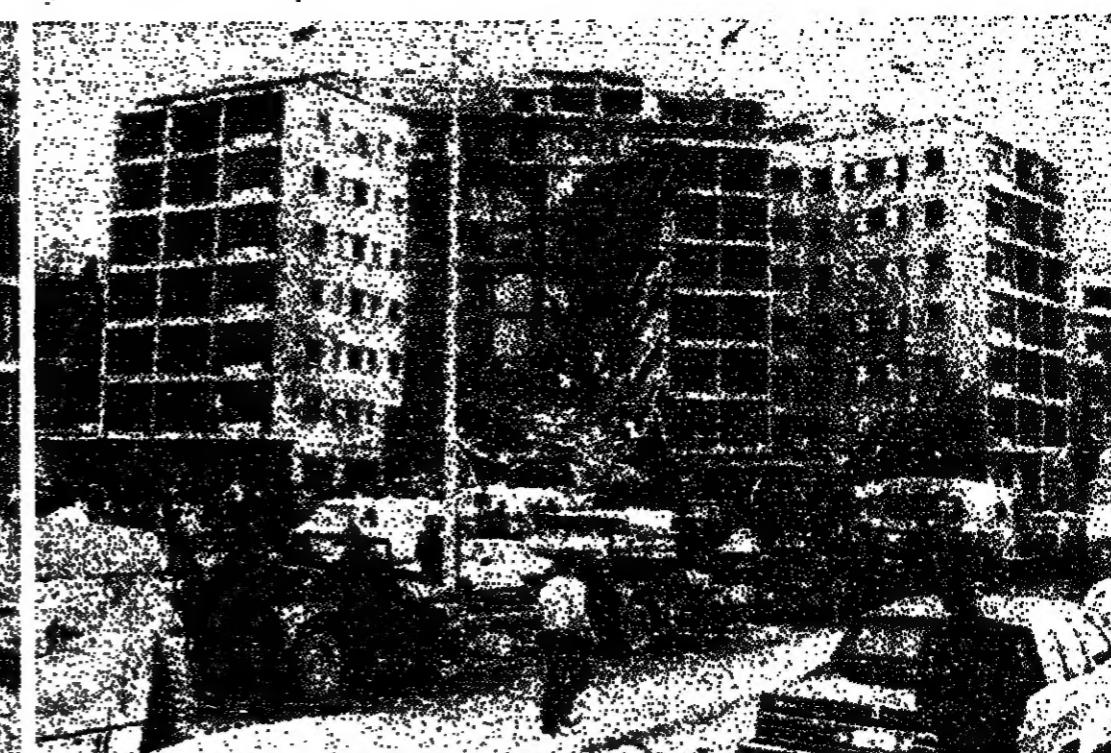
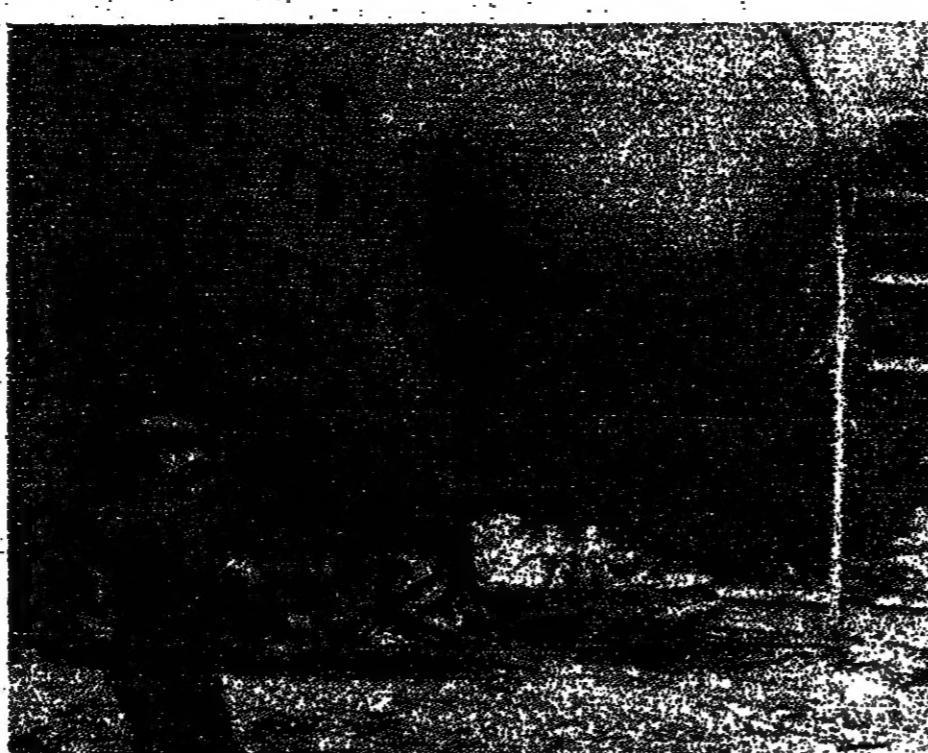
A cluster of 15 inhospitable mobile homes perched precariously on top of Mount Gerizim overlooking the occupied Palestinian town of Nablus became the focus yesterday of one of the largest demonstrations seen in the West Bank against the Begin Government's expansionist settlement drive.

About 10,000 Israeli protesters made their way by coach, car and on foot up the long winding road to the spot which is now known as "Upper Nablus" and is eventually intended to be a Jewish suburb which will house some 4,000 Israelis in new homes built strategically overlooking the 80,000 Nablus Arabs.

The Government's decision to reinforce the symbolism of the ceremony by staging it on the thirty-fifth anniversary of Israel's independence added to the protesters' anger. Many claimed it was a provocative play designed to give the impression of national consent for a type of settlement that many Israelis fiercely oppose.

"I believe that we have as much right to be here as in Tel Aviv, but I do not think we are going to get peace if we deliberately choose to live right among the local Arabs," explained one demonstrator, uncomfortably wrapped in plastic sheeting against the swirling rain. "This settlement is a real obstacle to me or my children ever living without war."

Flapping in the wind yesterday on top of the 800 yard high



Bomb blast in Beirut: A Lebanese policeman (left) standing guard, smoke billowing from the American Embassy and from burning cars, and (right) rescue vehicles.

How ambassador survived explosion

Beirut (AP and Reuters) — Mr Robert Dillon, the American Ambassador here, who was trapped in the rubble of an explosion that wrecked his embassy, said: "We have got to continue the peace effort."

He told reporters outside the embassy's shattered facade: "The negotiations will go ahead. It's a tragedy and you can imagine how sad and angered we all are but it doesn't change anything. The United States mission will continue."

Mr Dillon, who has been in Lebanon for more than two years, said he was standing up, a telephone receiver in one hand and a T-shirt in another, when the blast occurred shortly after 1pm (12pm BST).

"I was preparing to go out and jog when all of a sudden my office collapsed," Mr Dillon said about his top floor office in the seven-storey embassy building. "I was unable to move. Someone picked the rubble off me and my secretary and deputy, Bob Hugh, pushed the rubble off me. I went out the window and down a few floors and then out," Mr Dillon said.

The ambassador, who said he had a few cuts, was rushed in a bullet-proof limousine escorted by police to his residence in the suburbs, but returned to the embassy later in the afternoon to inspect the damage.

Mr Dillon, a Middle East specialist said both President Gemayel and Mr Shafik Wazzan, the Prime Minister, contacted him to express condolences at the rear of the embassy.

"I was responsible for the attack, but said it appeared that it may have been a car bomb that may have crashed through a barricade."

Mr Dillon said he had "no idea" who was responsible for the attack, but said it appeared that it may have been a car bomb that "may have crashed through a barricade."

Mr Ryan Crocker, the embassy's First Secretary whose office at the side of the building looks over the sea, said: "The initial impression was not of noise — but a burst of light, pressure and objects flying through the air."

"We had a tremendous amount of glass but little physical damage. I realized I was alive, then began checking on my staff," Mr Crocker said.

When they tried to leave the building, they found the staircase blocked by fire and smoke. They had to climb down ladders, provided by neighbours, at the rear of the embassy.

Mr Dillon said both President Gemayel and Mr Shafik Wazzan, the Prime Minister, contacted him to express condolences at the rear of the embassy.

Blast fails to deter Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

President Reagan declared yesterday that the car bomb explosion outside the American Embassy in Beirut would not deter the US from its goals of peace in the region.

In a special statement during a White House ceremony at which he presented prizes to Peace Corps volunteers, the President described the bombing as "a cowardly act".

He said he had instructed Mr Philip Habib and Mr Morris Draper, his two special envoys to the Middle East, to press ahead with negotiations for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

The President said the United States remained committed to the recovery by the Lebanese Government of full sovereignty throughout all its territory.

"The people of Lebanon must be given the chance to resume their efforts to lead a normal life free from violence and without the presence of unauthorized foreign forces on their soil. And to this noble end I rededicate the efforts of the United States."

Shortly before the President made his statement he had received a telephone call from President Amin Gemayel in which the Lebanese leader expressed his regret for the incident.

He also expressed his firm determination to persevere in the search for peace in the middle east.

Other people reacted differently. An American Marine

Heroism and tears among the scenes of horror

Continued from page 1

which a team of young Lebanese Red Cross men and women were shovelling onto stretchers. One girl in blood-stained white overalls was moving through the still-smoking visa section with a bucket.

No-one in that part of the building appeared to have survived, for the men and women, some of them stripped half-naked by the force of the explosion.

Infinitely more terrible was the scene we were to witness a few seconds later. For a slight breeze blew in from the sea and moved the curtains of smoke in front of the Embassy to reveal that seven entire storeys at the front of the building had pancaked down on top of each other and were now suspended perilously over the roadway.

And there, hanging upside down from a fourth floor, his legs helplessly crushed by the concrete above him, hung the body of a middle-aged man in a brown suit, his arms hanging listlessly downwards, an ant-track of blood running down the floorboards.

Perhaps such dreadful things inspire courage. For one of the French soldiers threw his beret to the ground and clambered into the burning Embassy. We saw him later, inching his way along a knife-edge of broken concrete 40 feet up the ramp and scrambling into a black hole in the pancaked floors to look for survivors.

Other people reacted differently. An American Marine

slightly hurt but alive, from the building.

The killers may have been trying to murder Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's chief envoy, but he was, as usual in Beirut, at President Amin Gemayel's palace at Baabda. Mr Robert Dillon, the tall, white-haired Ambassador, had been in his office when the bomb exploded and was trapped in heaps of rubble when the floor collapsed.

But he was rescued by his colleagues and was able to return to the Embassy four hours later and tell journalists that America had "got to continue" her peace efforts in the Middle East.

"The negotiations will go ahead," he said. "It's a tragedy and you can imagine how sad and angered we all are but it doesn't change anything — the US mission will continue."

Mr Dillon later suggested that the bomb might have been brought into the Embassy driveway by a motorist who could have crashed through the security barricade. However, the sad truth is that security was very lax around the American compound and Lebanese sentry boxes — including those beside the driveway — were often unmanned. The Lebanese Army probably realised this, for later in the afternoon they began to threaten foreign correspondents at the scene, tearing film out of cameras and — in one case — hitting a journalist in the face with a rifle butt. Another Lebanese soldier threatened to hit a US Marine press officer.

doing badly. There are 324 seats to be filled.

Sitting members were holding their seats in almost all these results. The Army would see the emergence of a civilian government with a workable majority in Parliament as a threat.

Many national figures feared that such a result might have prompted the military to overthrow the government by force. One of those who said he "hoped and prayed" he would not win because of that danger is Mr Kukrit Pramoj, a former Prime Minister and leader of the Social Action Party.

Pym says settlements are preventing peace

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

There could be no peace in the Middle East unless Israel stopped building settlements in its occupied territories, Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday.

He also urged the Begin Government to start a general withdrawal of forces from Lebanon by agreeing to remove its own troops.

He did not know whether President Reagan's peace initiative could be revived, he told the Foreign Press Association. But its prospects would be "immeasurably improved" by a decision to pull back Israeli forces.

Success on this issue was being seen as a test of American ability to undertake this kind of negotiating role in the Middle East. But no one seriously challenged the view that only the Americans could succeed.

Mr Pym said both President Gemayel and Mr Shafik Wazzan, the Prime Minister, contacted him to express condolences at the rear of the embassy.

In a forceful speech which concentrated entirely on the Middle East issues, he acknowledged that the Palestine Liberation Organization had shown in the past few days why so many people doubted its ability to negotiate for peace

to the Foreign Press Association.

He did not know whether President Reagan's peace initiative could be revived, he told the Foreign Press Association. But its prospects would be "immeasurably improved" by a decision to pull back Israeli forces.

Wellington — The Archbishop of Canterbury, who is visiting New Zealand, is seeking a peace summit of international religious leaders, our correspondent writes.

Dr Runcie said in Christchurch yesterday that this was one way the Anglican Church could work against the nuclear threat and he hoped that the Pope, the Patriarch of Moscow and representatives of the World Council of Churches would attend.

Despite the prospect that their claims could bankrupt the EEC, seven of the 10 ministers pressed for increases over and above the 4.2 per cent average being proposed by the Commission.

This sobering calculation was made in a paper issued yesterday by the European Commission as agriculture ministers began a meeting in Luxembourg to fix EEC farm price increases for the year ahead.

Mr Walker, the former KGB agent, about alleged Japanese collaborators, to be generally reliable, a government spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Levchenko, who defected to the United States in 1979, had identified by name eight Japanese collaborators and another 18 by KGB code names, publishers of the Japanese edition of *Readers Digest* disclosed last week.

Tokyo 'believes spy's story'

Tokyo (Reuters) — The Japanese Government believed statements by Mr Stanislav Levchenko, a former Tokyo-based KGB agent, about alleged Japanese collaborators, to be generally reliable, a government spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Levchenko, who defected to the United States in 1979, had identified by name eight Japanese collaborators and another 18 by KGB code names, publishers of the Japanese edition of *Readers Digest* disclosed last week.

Bandit jailed

Delhi (AFP) — Phoolan Devi, the 22-year-old bandit queen, whose exploits in the central Indian outback have become almost legendary here, has been sentenced to five years hard labour for illegal arms possession. She gave herself up in February. Several charges of manslaughter still face her.

Mafioso caught

Palermo (Reuters) — Paramilitary police burst into a luxurious seafood villa near here and arrested Giovanni Lo Verde, aged 44, one of Sicily's most wanted alleged Mafia bosses.

He had been sought since escaping in a blaze of gunfire during a raid on a gang stronghold in October 1981.

Japanese strike

Tokyo (Reuters) — Dockworkers launched a 24-hour strike at Japan's ports to back demands for job security threatened by increasing containerization. Walkouts are also planned at nine container berths for five days from today and three days from April 26.

More flogged

Karachi (Reuters) — Pakistani jailers flogged 132 more Muslim militants for taking part in religious violence here.

Farm demand may bankrupt EEC

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

EEC farmers this year have already asked the Community for 35 per cent more money than they did in the same period last year. This means that the Community could all but exhaust its available money by December.

This sobering calculation was made in a paper issued yesterday by the European Commission as agriculture ministers began a meeting in Luxembourg to fix EEC farm price increases for the year ahead.

Despite the prospect that their claims could bankrupt the EEC, seven of the 10 ministers pressed for increases over and above the 4.2 per cent average being proposed by the Commission.

The new Commission estimates show the level of agricultural spending in the first five months of this year will be £9,600m which is £600m on the original estimate.

The agricultural ministers, with the vociferous exception of Mr Walker, seemed relatively unmoved by these figures. For his part he said it would now be "very difficult" to get an agreement during the current meeting, which is due to start tomorrow.

Spain will reduce its commitment to nuclear power and possibly abandon the construction of some nuclear plants which are already being built, according to Señora Carmen Mezquida, the Director-General of Energy.

Addressing a symposium at the Ministry of Industry and Energy, Señora Mezquida emphasized the desirability of working for the development of nuclear power and the need to scale down investment, which was based on over-optimistic calculations of future energy needs. She also

pointed out that finance costs in some companies are now in the neighbourhood of 35 per cent, and a business failure of big power companies "could bring the whole economy tumbling down".

At the same time there is increasing political opposition to the use of nuclear power.

However, informed sources indicated other compelling reasons for the Government's decision to scale down its nuclear power plants which Señora Mezquida did not mention.

They are both economic and political. In the first place, the current expansion of Spanish energy facilities was financed to a considerable extent with loans to power companies from

Running of America kept in the family

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

The Reagan Administration critics are seeking to find out how the children and other relatives of some senior Administration officials have got well-paid jobs with the Federal Government for which they appear to have no special qualifications.

Most have been taken on by the United States Information Agency, which is responsible for putting out information about American policy and culture overseas.

Since President Reagan came to office the agency has taken on at least 150 political appointees, many of whom have been given plum posts in London and Paris.

Among those who have benefited from the agency's liberal hiring policy are the sons and daughters of Mr William Clark, the National

Foreign Minister.

As is the way with Washington, this mini-scandal has somewhat inevitably been dubbed "Kidigate".

The general election in Thailand yesterday appears to have produced the result wanted by the Army, which was largely responsible for the election being called two months early.

Although many votes are still uncounted it appears likely that, as predicted, no party has won a majority, and consequently the next government will be another coalition.

Senator Edward Zorinsky, a member of the Senate foreign relations committee, has written to Mr Wick demanding to know whether the appointments "violate the letter or the spirit of any anti-nepotism laws or regulations."

A spokesman for the agency insisted the appointees were all qualified for their positions.

As is the way with Washington, this mini-scandal has somewhat inevitably been dubbed "Kidigate".

The research, based on Queensland government data not normally made public, also showed that the death rate on the reserves from heart disease, violence and accidents was three times higher.

The Queensland health authorities originally made the semi-confidential figures available to defence counsel for an Aboriginal man who pleaded guilty to, and was convicted of, the manslaughter of his common law wife. The information was used to prepare a sociological study of life on the reserve for the court.

Dr Paul Wilson, a sociologist, who is one of the authors of the report, said that the reserves with highest death rate were those run by the State Department of Aboriginal and Islander Advancement. The researchers study the mortality rate on Queensland's 14 largest reserves with a total population of over 11,000.

The researchers also found that the relatively high mortality rate did not necessarily diminish even where there were reasonably high standards of public hygiene such as sewerage and good water supply.

For general enquiries Christopher Edmondson or Clare Jackson on Ext 248, 7 Blenheim Street, New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS. Tel: 01-629 6602

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Army gets its way in Thai election

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The general election in Thailand yesterday appears to have produced the result wanted by the Army, which was largely responsible for the election being called two months early.

It is the type of assembly the Army had in mind when last month it forced the abandonment of a new electoral system designed to give the larger political parties a good chance of obtaining a workable majority at this election.

The results so far indicated that nine seats to the Social Action Party, the largest in the former Parliament, 11 to the Chart Thai party, and smaller numbers to three other parties. Independents appeared to be

doing

FASHION by Suzy Menkes



LADIES AND GENTLEMAN.

I am proud and honoured to receive this Oscar from you tonight. It is the first time in 54 years of the Academy Awards that a Raincoat has been singled out by the Motion Picture Industry - even though it has featured heavily in the history of Hollywood. I think especially of those very wonderful performers Greta Garbo and Humphrey Bogart, both sadly no longer with us. I salute the style of that great lady Lauren Bacall. I should also like to honour the memory

of the legendary Marlene Dietrich in her man's trench coat and to remind you all of that successful long-running cinematic series *Sex Appeal in the Rain*, starring Sophia Loren getting wet.

A raincoat is only as good as its producers, and I share the glory of this Oscar with Aquascutum and Burberry who have given me so much support over the years. I was especially pleased to see the award for Best Colour Range go

to Aquascutum for its newly refurbished mackintosh department in Regent Street.

To my distributors, I also express my gratitude, especially to Harrods, who have included so many different styles, to Simpsons for elegance and variety, to Harvey Nichols for designer collections, and to Fenwick who do so much at popular prices for young people.

Finally, I should like to thank the one thing that has

made this award possible. The raincoat, as you know, is a British success story. And we in Britain have something back home that you in Los Angeles saw for the first time during the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last month.

Ladies and Gentleman, I accept this Oscar on behalf of the British Rain that has fallen continuously on my country for the past month, thus ensuring me a long successful run.

Starring in the rain



BEST ALL ROUND PERFORMER: The Classic Trench (right), starring Marlene Dietrich, Greta Garbo, Humphrey Bogart, Marilyn Monroe, Jeanne Moreau and the entire population of Japan. Produced in lightweight lined cotton, tan only, sizes 38in-44in, £165 from 92 Department at Aquascutum, 100 Regent Street, London, W1. Felt hat by Bernora. Sheer lights from Elbec. Selenite court shoes from Freemans Mail Order.

NOMINATIONS: Classic Burberry with distinctive check lining at £175. Marks & Spencer's double breasted raincoat with small check lining, in stone and light brown, 245. Dommec's trench from Fenwick, 257. Big nylon foldaway trench coat £19.99 from Flap, 125 Long Acre, Covent Garden, WC2.

BEST SUPPORTING ROLE: Black Cire (above), starring Lauren Bacall and Juliette Greco, shot mainly on location on the Left Bank in Paris, with brief flashes of shiny PVC in swinging London in the 1960s. Produced in rubberized cotton in black only, four basic styles, single and double breasted, sizes to order £265 from Weather Vain, 223 Sandycombe Road, Kew, Surrey. Perspex and leather waist-catcher £22.55 by Nancy Fisher from String Cooper. White circular skirt £24.99 by Strawberry Studio. White sweetheart sweater £22.95 from Fenwick.

NOMINATIONS: Original 1960s PVC from Camden Lock and Kensington Market. Sweet Charity's black plastic mini mac £19.50 from First Floor, Kensington Market, High Street, Kensington, W8, p 4 p 22.00. String Cooper's shiny grey three-quarter mac £39.99 from 94 New Bond Street. Millets' range of plastic and rubberized macs and jackets from £2.99.

BEST SEX APPEAL: The White Raincoat (far right), starring Sophia Loren, Gina Lollobrigida, all cinema journalists and Wells Cometto salesmen. A sultry tale of passion in Italy in the 1950s, recently released. Produced by Michael Morsell with eyelet trim and showerproof leather collar £139 from Weather Vain, 223 Sandycombe Road, Kew, Surrey. Animal print belt top £3.95 from Fenwick, New Bond Street. Headscarf £2.95 from Fenwick. Gloves by Dent-Powells.

NOMINATIONS: Femmes at Fenwick, 259 with stand or turn-down collar. Anna Maria Beretta's white plastic and towelling cape for Ramsgate, £21.75 from Harvey Nichols. Fir-Pleat's clean and simple styling from a wide range at Selfridges, Oxford Street.

FASHION EDITOR'S COMMENT

Are the TV companies pulling the woolies over our eyes? The only radical change that I can see over my children's shoulders in the morning, is that Nick Owen's sweater has taken over from Frost's business suit. Any other alterations to morning television are purely cosmetic.

The fuss over Selina's poached egg eyes, Frank Bough's rumpled jumpers and Angela's headmistress hairstyle has been greeted by the *Four Eyes*. As signs of trivial media reaction and poor public taste. I do not dismiss so lightly the fact that the biggest star of breakfast time television has been the sweater. For who still believes that what you wear is not an important signal (for both sexes) of who you are, what group you identify with or which image you are aiming for?

The fashion catchphrase of the last decade has been that "anything goes", and it is true that the sartorial standards which equated clothes with status have been unpicked. But dress is still an identifiable badge of class, career, age, or even regional groupings, and in the current fashion anarchy, the desire to identify is stronger than ever.

The cult of Preppy clothes in America and the Sloane Ranger fragmentation that whatever your

affection of green wellies and buckles are used as secret weapons in a guerrilla war of class, in which the rules are changed as soon as the masses discover what the élite are wearing.

In Germany, the political fight between the Greens and the Christian Democrats is being acted out in costumes so sorry they look like a caricature: long hair, beards and blue denim against sober suits, collars and ties.

The Greenwich Common women dress in a parody of protest style, although my anti-fashion sister will not thank me for pointing to the wellies and cloaks, the leg warmers and hand knits, the badge-decorated dungarees and the ubiquitous woolly hat. (It has become such a potent peace symbol that the local residents refuse to wear it lest they should be identified with the invaders).

There was an earlier peace style of duffles and corduroys, as worn by readers of the *New Statesman* and still worn by old statesmen like Michael Foot. The fashion exhibition at the Brighton Museum actually has the CND uniform of dark duffle coat and badge on display.

Now fashion has become so

cause you dress for it. Earth mothers and middle aged hippies still cling to floral prints and ethnic accessories (Kelim shoulder bags, straw baskets, long woolly scarves and shawls). The unemployable are drawn to the smart suit, dad's badge of office life. The uniformed classes wear their authority off-duty with knife creases down their terylene slacks. Army wives identify in elbow-patched sweaters, a pastiche of the paras.

In this kaleidoscope of style, those in the know recognize it when they see it. (Thus the Camden Palace follows the tradition of all fashionable nightspots by insisting on a certain standard of dress, although they are smart enough to make their own valuation and not get hoist by a collar and tie).

The only obvious mainstream movement of the last decade, has been away from formal clothes and towards sportswear (although I believe that this will now begin to go in reverse). Given that casual wear is now king, it was very unwise of TV am to think that presenting a smart face to the walking world would endear them to the viewing public. So on with the sweaters - and on with the show.



Hepworths: after Next for women, a First for men

Can Terence Conran do a Next on Hepworths itself?

The Next fashion chain sprung fully clothed - under the design inspiration of Conran - from the remains of 78 Kendalls stores 18 months ago when they were bought by Hepworths.

Now Next has a £40m turnover, more than 100 branches and an image of dynamism in coordinating women's wear.

The staid Hepworths men's stores took up the challenge last week with a show that had everything from a camped-up film producer to a rag week student wearing nothing but a college scarf. (He was soon dressed from stock.)

More important, Hepworths in Regent Street, along with 150 of the 288 high street stores, has had a face-lift. A video film of a week in the life of a team of British workmen, showed us how a shop can be re-fitted at high speed with elegant grey-felt walls decorated with burgundy carriage lines (just coincidentally the Conran-designed colour scheme at Next).

Blouson jacket £24.99, sweater and shorts both £9.99 from HARRY KERR.

Terence Conran himself, wearing a pink tie and an enigmatic smile, told me that Next was the model for the new Hepworths, although things tend to move at a slower pace in the menswear business.

"The Hepworths image has been honest, solid and traditional," says Bob Russell, managing director of Hepworths (Retail) Ltd. "We have been more than a year planning its re-birth and taking a fresh look at men's clothes."

The new shop, says Mr Russell, are designed in colour scheme and layout to appeal to the female shopper and the coordination of the clothes is also aimed at the sharper fashion eye of wives and girl friends.

"We don't underestimate the importance of the woman who visits the store during the week and comes back at the weekend bringing her man."

Mr Russell speaks reverently of the "soft statement" wall panels showing coordinated outfit, with rails of clothes aimed at the 24 to 45 age group (the original target of Next, although their customers now tend to be younger).

The real change of image for Hepworths lies in the clothes, which are still fairly middle-of-the-road in style and colour but now concentrate more strongly on sportswear, with casual shirts, blousons and unstructured jackets edging out the formal suits.

Hepworths have been known for over a century for their suits. Now 50 per cent of the merchandise is in casual wear with every accessory from underpants to umbrellas on sale, alongside the more formal coats and raincoats.

But the real news, which is sending a frisson of fear through the rest of menswear retailing, is that Hepworths have launched a new own label brand of casual wear called First. Whatever Next?

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THE ARTS

Television
Fearful
crime

Burglary pays. Legitimate businesses may ponder tomorrow's uncertainties, but burglary-booms, with nearly two break-ins a minute. Burglars can afford to be cocky about it: there is only one conviction for about every 90 burglaries.

Sir Robert Mark, former Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, says the public fears burglary more than any other crime but is largely unaware of the situation. "There is a general, widespread and entirely mistaken conception that the police and courts are an adequate and effective deterrence to burglary. It just simply isn't true."

Granada's *World in Action* is showing two programmes, *Offence Against the Person*, to make us more aware, in the first, last night. Mr Stanley Bailey, Newcastle's Chief Constable, whose patch was visited to demonstrate Sir Robert's points, said that the worst feature of the boom was the fear. People did not go out for fear of being burgled.

In Tyneside, one house in four is burgled every other year. Police were shown in conscientious but implicitly vain investigation. A fingerprint man said he expected to be dusting around 20 houses on a normal Sunday. Victims mourned not just material losses but the feeling of violation which often affects nervous and physical health. An Oxford criminologist, Mr Michael Maguire, without underestimating the problem, said that the fear of the crime was often based on a wrong perspective.

Britain now has 140 voluntary groups trying to assist victims whose sense of security is shattered. And it is not just fat cats who get burgled: the poorer districts of the inner cities are the worst affected. Police are not convinced that the consequent boom in security systems does much to deter would-be burglars.

By no means all are professional in the traditional sense. Seventy per cent are under 21; 40 per cent under 17. Mr William Whitelaw appeared briefly to speak of the Home Office's publicity campaign, the largest ever, against the crime. Next week we are to hear of the changes in police tactics which are being considered. That should provide another good reason for staying in.

On BBC 2 Horizon showed an American-produced dramatized account of the official inquiry into the Three Mile Island nuclear power accident in 1979, somewhat technical but clear enough in its message: the operators could not tell what was happening; the manufacturers got it wrong; the government body, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, reacted with a whole set of wrong assumptions.

It will be 1985 before decontamination is complete. It will have cost \$1 billion, twice the original estimate. Despite inquiry and expense, the programme concluded that, unless the system governing nuclear power changes, more Three Mile Islands are inevitable. Altogether a chilling start to the week.

Dennis Hackett

Concert

Philharmonia /
Haitink
Festival Hall/Radio 3

I am sure we have not heard the last of Brahms's *German Requiem* in this the 150th anniversary year of his birth, but it will be hard for anyone else to match the fullness and abundance of Sunday night's performance under Bernard Haitink. Here was the piece pulled out of comfortable Protestant gloom and made to sit up. But it was not an unsuitably operatic performance; rather the effect was of a seven-movement symphony, with a feeling for large-scale structure as unerring as was shown before the interval in Haydn's "Oxford" Symphony.

It seemed, too, that Mr Haitink was merely providing the opportunity for the work to say as much as it can as decisively as possible, though reflection would indicate what care he, the Philharmonia and the Philharmonia Chorus had put into tiny details of newly gauged sonority, into building slow crescendos like great sturdy waves, and above all into reconsidering the phrasing so that answer did not come too pat upon question. It was indeed an intelligent as well as a moving performance.

A movement that stirred the world

The Hague School
Royal AcademyAlexander Mann
Fine Art Society

The thing about art history is that, however much you know in theory, there are always gaps to be filled in by direct reference to the art that the history is supposed to be all about. And the missing pieces of the jigsaw puzzle frequently prove not quite to fit where and in the way that they are supposed to. Nobody and nothing can be safely dismissed – not, at any rate, until we have had a proper look at it.

Which is where exhibitions like The Hague School, at the Royal Academy until July 10, come in. You might be forgiven a certain vagueness about even which century the artists in question belong to, so the show's subtitle obligingly fills in the necessary detail: "Dutch Masters of the Nineteenth Century". But, beyond that, who are they and what does their painting look like? Puzzling questions indeed, today, in 1983. But a century ago, we would probably have had little difficulty in answering them. For then the vogue for Holland was in full swing. Painters from all over the world flocked to Holland to paint the local sites and costumes and customs as Max Liebermann wrote in 1901,

"Any young man of any energy made the pilgrimage to Holland, bringing back with him a wooden shoe, a white cap and a long clay pipe; the Dutch window with its little ledged lights became the fashion". And the fashion was initiated by the spectacular impact contemporary Dutch artists were making on the international art scene.

Then, names like Mauve, Israels and the brothers Maris would have been very familiar to British art lovers. Books were published in English about them and their work, and poking around in provincial art collections or the basement of the National Gallery will soon uncover excellent examples, probably hard by the paintings of lesser members of the Barbizon School who were in many respects their French equivalents. They painted mostly landscape and genre pictures – landscapes mirroring with infinite variation the grey skies and flat green pastures of Holland, interiors of humble and sedentary peasant life.

The stylized and unassertive the painters saw themselves principally as realists, showing life and landscape as they really were. And so successful were they, for their time, that the shock of the new in their work sent waves of excited response throughout Europe and even across the Atlantic.

Renewing acquaintance is quite a comfortable experience. You can see exactly where they come from and exactly where they lead. Three years ago an important show emphasized

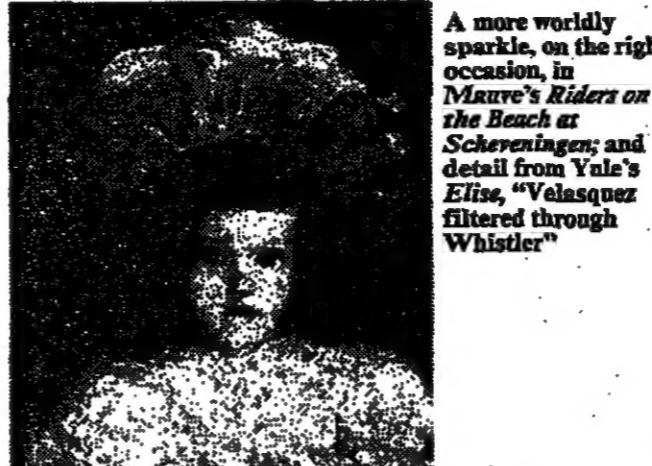


this aspect, even in its title, *Mondriaan and the Hague School*; it toured Manchester, Southampton, Birmingham and Norwich, but never came to London. For those who saw it, the implication was plain enough: the Hague School mattered because, improbably, senior artists in Mondrian's family belonged to it and he himself began his long pilgrimage to abstraction right there. In the present show we end up with half a dozen very early Mondrians – and it must be said that seldom can the beginnings of a great artist have been quite so unprepossessing as these unadventurous daubs, with a noticeable sense of form only just tentatively emerging in what one imagines to be the latest. We are also reminded, for good measure, that Van Gogh's beginnings were very much in the heart of the Hague School.

But, to be worthwhile to more than a tiny minority of specialists, an exhibition has to do more than merely fill in a few dark areas of history. And here the present show triumphantly succeeds. Quite irrespective of where, if anywhere, their work led, these nineteenth-century Dutch painters are eminently worth rediscovering just on their own merits. They do not have the kind of immediate, dramatic impact which floors you as you enter the first gallery, but they exert a slow-growing but intense fascination as you look leisurely round. You can well appreciate why Mauve had such a high reputation in his own time as a landscape artist and recorder of peasant lives and labours he paints farm animals with full sympathy and understanding, and has a special feeling for peasants bent under lowering skies, but also, as *Riders on the Beach at Scheveningen* demonstrates, he can respond with a more worldly sparkle when the occasion seems right.

You can also begin to tell the time, from Bastien-Lepage's crisp and chilly pictures of French peasant life to the proto-impressionists of the Hague School and the oriental leanings of Whistler and his group. He seems to have had private means, travelled a lot, and though he exhibited widely, never had to push his work in a fully professional fashion. Professional in his attitude to painting he decided was, however, and, in whatever style he chose to paint, he seems to have achieved complete proficiency. There are in this show one or two dull pictures, but nothing which is not wonderfully accomplished, even when, in later days, he drifts rather alarmingly over into Symbolist fantasy. The connecting links between his various styles and phases are not very strong or evident, but an artist who can well justify the exhibition of 72 paintings at once without boring or sating us does not deserve 80 years of total neglect.

Alexander Mann, whose work is showing at the Fine Art Society until May 6, lived longer and was the more accomplished of the two, though also the more difficult to pin down as an artistic personality. He was born in Glasgow, studied in Paris and absorbed all the regular influences of the



examples on view at Pym's Crisp and chilly pictures of French peasant life to the proto-impressionists of the Hague School and the oriental leanings of Whistler and his group. He seems to have had private means, travelled a lot, and though he exhibited widely, never had to push his work in a fully professional fashion. Professional in his attitude to painting he decided was, however, and, in whatever style he chose to paint, he seems to have achieved complete proficiency. There are in this show one or two dull pictures, but nothing which is not wonderfully accomplished, even when, in later days, he drifts rather alarmingly over into Symbolist fantasy. The connecting links between his various styles and phases are not very strong or evident, but an artist who can well justify the exhibition of 72 paintings at once without boring or sating us does not deserve 80 years of total neglect.

William Henry Yule died at the age of 33, and was obviously far less formed as an artist than Mann. Perhaps for this very reason, he seems much more coherent and consistent, if never quite so showily effective. His work appears, from the

Theatre
Cynical musings

The death of Tennessee Williams leaves Sam Shepard perhaps the leading active American playwright, since Arthur Miller and Edward Albee have for some years now rested on the laurels garnered by their earlier plays. Mr Shepard's latest work, *Fool for Love*, unveiled by the Magic Theater in San Francisco, gives one pause to reflect upon the state of contemporary American drama, particularly in the West and Middle West.

This impressive production offers four accomplished actors almost perfectly cast, and Mr Shepard has directed his play himself with a technical virtuosity no doubt rooted in his own considerable experience as an actor. Andy Stuckin has designed a cheap, bare western motel room, unwelcoming enough to curdle the blood, and Andry L. Golden has provided costumes so naturalistic their wearers appear to have had them on for weeks or even months.

The electric tension between May and Eddie (Kathy Baker and Ed Harris; both of them outstanding, at times even brilliant) evokes two horse-shoe magnets: they can attract irresistibly or, with poles reversed, irresistibly repel. They refer to a sexual bond of some years' standing, but over that relationship hangs an evident threatening, perhaps horrible, shadow. Lovers? Siblings? Mr Shepard tantalizes us. Downstage left, a repulsive old man (Will Marchetti) guzzles straight cheap bourbon, acting as a sort of Far-West Greek chorus. The arrival of May's date Martin (Dennis Hadow) provides the twist which finally ignites the explosion.

Mr Shepard's sure sense of theatricality, to judge by this play, considerably exceeds his intellectual and poetic capability for transmuting such sombre material into art. He has an exceptional, finely attuned ear, but he fails to make May and Eddie – both of them obviously wretchedly unhappy.

Other recent theatrical events hereabouts have offered almost an embarrassment of choice, much of it outstanding by any standards. Experiment thrives. A startlingly good "performance work" by a remarkable young black writer, Ellen Sebastian, entitled *Your Place is No Longer Us*, moves a few dozen spectators, along with the small cast, from room to room, upstairs and downstairs, in the house where the drama unfolds. The San Francisco Mime Troupe, which has won important prizes here and abroad for its slashing, left-wing street theatre, has surprised us with a powerful indoor production of the Lope de Vega classic *The Uprising at Fuente Ovejuna*. Londoners will have occasion, this summer, at the international drama festival, to sample a multi-media work just unveiled here under the title *arc* – an extraordinary, virtually indescribable 90 minutes of mime, projections, speech and song, with a musical score ranging between rock and minimalist.

The repertory company founded by and named after Tyrone Guthrie, in Minneapolis, recently had to capitulate to harsh economic reality and abandon the repertory system – a body-blow to decentralized theatre in this country – but both San Francisco and Berkeley continue to fare much better. The American Conservatory Theater's repertory this season has thus far given us outstanding productions of *The Chalk Garden*, *Uncle Vanya* and *Look*, and the Berkeley Repertory Company has especially distinguished itself with the Brecht-Weill *Happy End* and *The Glass Menagerie*.

Paul Moor

Recital

Fou Ts'ong

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Faced with the need to separate the funeral march movement in Chopin's B flat minor Sonata, Op. 35, from the ceremonial associations that nowadays cling to it, Fou Ts'ong made sure that the character of the other movements related closely to it in his solo programme on Sunday. He gave grandeur to the sonata's opening movement, perhaps by the help of a few more spread chords than were absolutely good for it, and communicated a fine sense of fancy in the Scherzo.

The march itself was adumbrated with sufficient weight to ensure that it retained its central focus as the source of the poetic ideas in the previous two movements, and the consolatory trio section was played with a deliberate and affecting simplicity. If this indeed was Chopin's visionary response to the idea of death, the performance indicated that it could be contemplated with dignity, the sonata's brief and enigmatic

finale then becoming a bold dispensing of the vision.

The sonata was preceded by the first book of Debussy's *Etudes*, which were dedicated to Chopin and in which the pianist demonstrated his acute sense of harmonic character, especially in the studies involving fourths and sixths. His use of the sustaining pedal clouded the musical texture at times, but the agility of the fingerwork and consistent brilliance of technique in realizing the essential purpose of each study was much to be appreciated.

Earlier in the programme the pianist seemed to lose heart before the end of Schubert's A minor Sonata, D845. It began strongly, with significant pauses helping to point the contrast of expression in the opening movement and in the following theme and variations. The energetic Scherzo was not entirely spotless, however, and, whether or not this upset him, his approach to the finale was somewhat wild and he allowed it to grow more erratic towards the end.

Noel Goodwin

Sheridan Morley meets Richard O'Callaghan (below), who opens as Feste in *Twelfth Night* at Stratford tomorrow

The deep end of repertoire

"I was a bit greedy, I thought, if I was going to Stratford for the first time, I'd like to be in everything possible"; accordingly Richard O'Callaghan will be spending this Warwickshire summer as Feste in *Twelfth Night*, Crammer in *Henry VIII*, one of the Dromios in *Comedy of Errors* and Lucio in *Measure for Measure*. In fact the only main-stage Shakespeare he will not be found in is *Julius Caesar*.

This is my first time in a repertory company, and I thought I'd like to go in at the deep end. I was only ever once with the RSC before, and that was for a *Warehouse* run of *TV Times*; then I joined the National, but again only for one play – the West End transfer of *Amadeus*. But mother was at Stratford for the 1976 season and she said it was really very nice. Mother is Pat Hayes, indomitable survivor of a thousand television situation comedies and also one of the finest if most underrated dramatic actresses in the business.

"I suppose acting does run in the family, though it took me a long time to come to terms with that. I'm now 43 but I've only been in the business 17 years, and I've never until now even begun to think of myself as a Shakespearean. A lot of the people I was at LAMDA with in the mid-1960s went straight off to the RSC and carried on for two years and got so depressed at their lack of progress that they then left the theatre altogether. Perhaps that's why I've left it for so long before trying my classical luck.

"My father was Valentine Brooks, who had quite a starry career in the mid-1930s, and I had two sisters, but my parents split up when I was seven. By that time my father had given up acting and become an announcer on Radio Luxembourg. Now which open house will indulge first?"

John Russell Taylor



already was an actor called Richard Brooks so that when I went back to my Irish ancestors and became an O'Callaghan like my grandfather's people.

Since then I've been lucky enough to get a lot of interesting work [Budley, *Boggs Gun*, *Three Monkeys*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*] in among all the television, and because I've never had any children I've never really had to worry too much about money. There was one terrible time about twelve years ago when I had eight months out, but since then I've worked pretty consistently. In television I think I'm now a star; in the theatre I'm still a good second lead for things like *Bulley* and *Amadeus*.

"Mind you this season will not be my first Shakespeare: I was in the *Alec Guinness* *Simone Signoret Macbeth* at the Court in 1966, which someone was unkind enough to call 'Aimez-Vous Glands?' Signoret could have been breathtaking, but she got terrified by the language and somehow her confidence never came through.

The critics were totally destructive, but I thought she was a wonderful kind lady. It was, though, a very unhappy company and we were working in a set that was like a sandpapered cardboard carton, so that didn't help; also nobody really gave her the go-ahead to take off so she just never did. By the end the gloom that hung over that *Macbeth* was so terrible I refused ever to do the play again, even when the Young Vic offered me a tour of Mexico with it.

"But the joy of Stratford this summer is the range of the work I suppose Feste might be obvious casting for me, but Crammer certainly is not and I think if I can manage that it could be very exciting."

Opera

Long overdue for revival

La Gioconda

Where to see Ponchielli's *La Gioconda* nowadays with the international cast it deserves? The Met in New York, although that house had its well-publicized troubles with the opera early on in the season just ended; San Francisco, as television has shown us; the Verona Arena, quite frequently. But London opera houses have shied away from Ponchielli's masterpiece for well over half a century. After Sunday's concert performance, which drew a full and cheering house to the Barbican, this ostracism might be reconsidered. It does not, after all, require too bold a management to measure up to the vocal and scenic demands of *La Gioconda*; if the National can create virtually the whole city of Bath for *The Rivals* then why be afraid of Ponchielli's far from sleepy Venetian lagoon?

Sunday's cast contained a trio of the biggest voices in the world, capable it sounded of filling not just the Concert Hall but the whole of the Barbican Centre. They were those of Ghena Dimitrova, Plácido Domingo and Piero Cappuccilli.

The qualities of Mme Dimitrova have already been reported on this page from Berlin and in this, her London debut, she proved that although the dramatic soprano is an endangered species it is certainly not yet an extinct breed. She had fire in her voice, stamina and a magnificent lower register.

In the last act Enzo calls *La Gioconda* a furious hyena ("furibonda iena") and with many an angry gesture from Ghena Dimitrova no one would question the description. Yet a quarter of an hour later she was ready to tackle a series of almost Donizietti runs before *La Gioconda* thrusts a



dagger into her heart. Occasionaly there is a sour note, rather more often a stock gesture, but this was a *Gioconda* with all the passions Ponchielli demanded.

Enzo must be one of the few major nineteenth-century Italian roles Plácido Domingo has yet to record. Presumably someone is now considering plugging that gap. Domingo still has the ability to raise the temperature of the house the moment he walks on to the platform. For half of Act I the conductor, Anton Guadagno, had appeared on rather remote terms with the LSO, and the LSO themselves on equally remote terms with Italian opera. Domingo changed all that.

John Higgins

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SPECTRUM

Early in 1940, under threat of invasion, Churchill turned his thoughts to three strategically vital Irish ports which had been ceded to Dublin only two years earlier. In an extract from his new book, Robert Fisk reveals Churchill's offer of a united Ireland, and how it was rejected

Getting the Irish out of neutral

In the emotional shock of June 1940, Winston Churchill tried to withstand the effects of the European debacle with visions of defiance and generosity. When France was collapsing under the German advance, he searched for some epic device with which to rally his broken ally; and on June 16, he offered France common citizenship with Britain, urging the French government to proclaim the "indissoluble union" of the two countries. British and French would become citizens of the same nation, protected by a joint defence organization.

It was an audacious gesture, the ramifications of which were scarcely considered by the French, who, in any case, promptly turned it down. But it illustrated the extravagant way in which Churchill's mind was moving at that traumatic period. It was quite in keeping that he should, on June 21, dispatch Malcolm MacDonald to Ireland to seek a new ally with offers which also transcended the bonds of national loyalty.

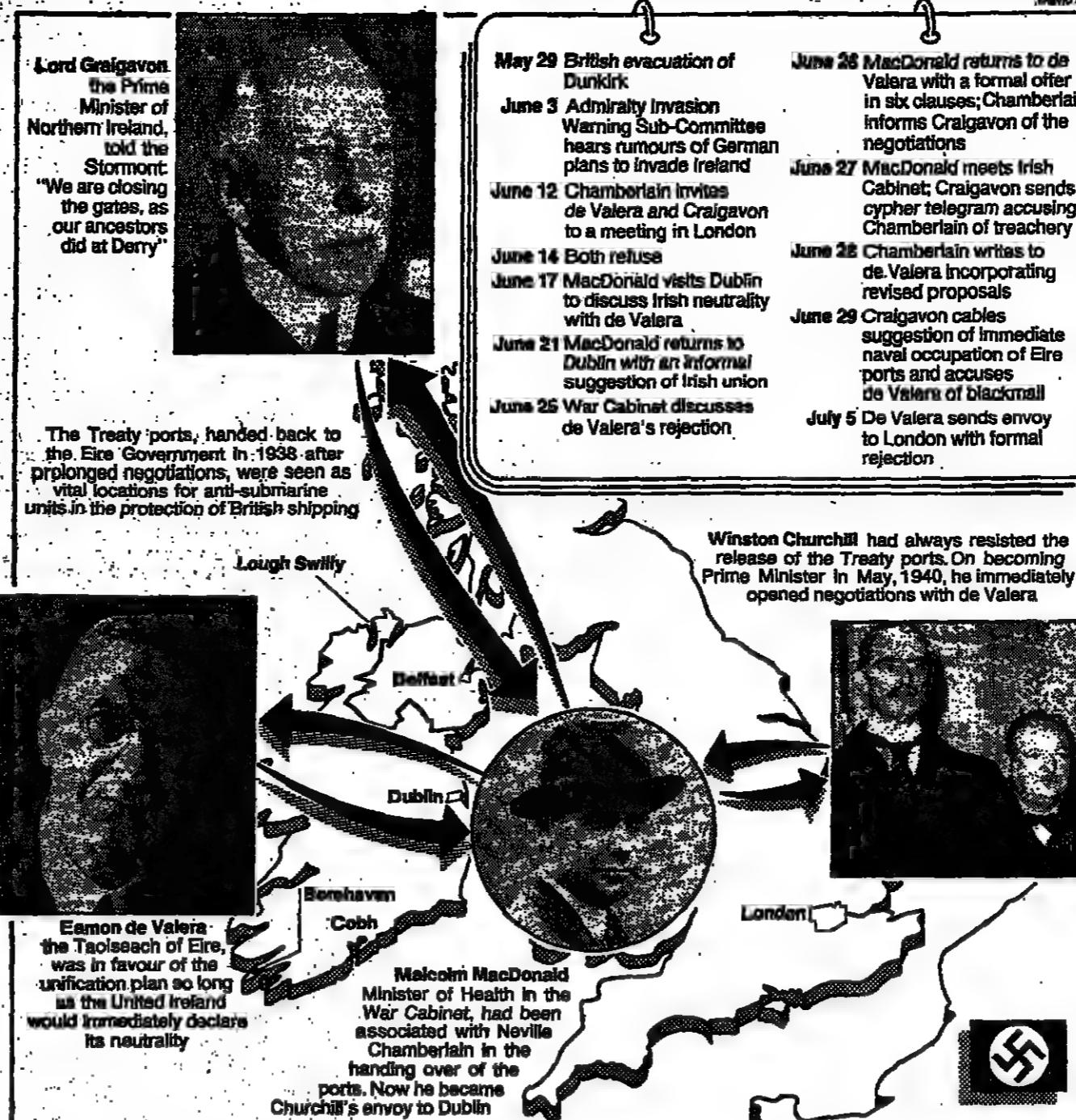
MacDonald was Minister of Health in Churchill's coalition government but he was also the minister who, with Chamberlain, had been most closely involved in handing back the Royal Navy's Irish treaty ports shortly before the Second World War. Now, with the German Army on the Channel coast, he was being sent back to Ireland to persuade Eire's Prime Minister, Eamon de Valera, to lend the Irish ports back to the Navy. In return he was to make a tentative offer of Irish neutrality.

MacDonald thought this "entirely impracticable". There was, he said, no prospect that the people of Ulster would agree to desert Great Britain at the moment when her situation was more perilous than it had been for a century. The majority of the people in Northern Ireland would feel "deeply incensed" and the new state would be launched in the worst possible circumstances. Britain could not now contemplate a neutral Ulster: vital war production was being carried on there, MacDonald then threw out one more suggestion:

"That there should be a declaration of a United Ireland in principle, the practical details of the union to be worked out in due course; that United Ireland to become at once a belligerent on the side of the Allies."

De Valera now seemed more interested. MacDonald wrote in his report to London that "he answered that if there were not only a declaration of a United Ireland in principle, but

*Abridged from *Time of War* by Robert Fisk, published by André Deutsch on April 25, price £25*



any rate for the time being, if both parties desired it, a Joint Defence Council to be set up at once, at the same time, in order to secure Eire's neutrality against violation by Germany, British Naval ships to be allowed into Eire ports, British troops and aeroplanes to be stationed at certain agreed points in the territory, the British Government to provide additional equipment for Eire's forces, and the Eire Government to take effective action against the Fifth Column."

De Valera rejected the suggestion. His people, he said, would regard the admission of British forces before a German invasion as an abandonment of strict neutrality, and national unity in the face of the German threat would be broken. There would be "unfortunate skirmishes" between the Irish and the British. De Valera then proposed:

"That Eire should be merged in a United Ireland which should at once become neutral; its neutrality to be guaranteed by Great Britain and the United States of America; since Britain was a belligerent, its Military and Naval forces should not take any active part in guaranteeing that neutrality, but American ships should come into the Irish ports, and perhaps American troops into Ireland, to effect this guarantee."

De Valera thought that some of his colleagues might be critical of this proposal - the possibility that American ships and troops could protect Ireland's neutrality was his own idea - but that the only way in which mutual difficulties could be overcome would be to establish a neutral United Ireland.

MacDonald, then proposed that

also agree upon its constitution, then the Government of Eire might agree to enter the war at once, but the constitution of a United Ireland would have to be fixed first.

MacDonald's discussions had lasted two days and the British Government considered the results on June 25.

Chamberlain presented the Cabinet with a memorandum summarizing the talks and taking up MacDonald's hint that the Irish Government might be "considerably influenced" by a promise of military equipment. Chamberlain consulted the Chiefs of Staff, who drew up a list of arms that could be given to Eire. He also listed the three tentative proposals that MacDonald had discussed in Dublin, commenting that Sir John Maffey, the British representative in Eire, believed that the third of these - a British declaration of a United Ireland in principle and the immediate entry into the war of the new state - might yet sway the Irish Cabinet.

Chamberlain then proposed that

MacDonald should return to Dublin

Lord Craigavon: the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, told the Stormont: "We are closing the gates, as our ancestors did at Derry."

June 29 British evacuation of Dunkirk
June 3 Admiralty Invasion Warning Sub-Committee hears rumours of German plans to invade Ireland
June 12 Chamberlain invites de Valera and Craigavon to a meeting in London
June 14 Both refuse
June 17 MacDonald visits Dublin to discuss Irish neutrality with de Valera
June 21 MacDonald returns to Dublin with an informal suggestion of Irish union
June 25 War Cabinet discusses de Valera's rejection
July 5 De Valera sends envoy to London with formal rejection

the strength of his 'Fifth Column'. My friend suggested that if he would declare himself as willing to come in with Britain, I would be glad to meet him anywhere at any time to talk over mutual civil defence provided no 'constitutional' questions were touched upon. Mr de Valera's answer was: 'Quite impossible'.

Craigavon did not name his informant, and would reveal only that he was an "absolutely reliable source". It was a sad attempt to counterbalance the reports which Craigavon must have known MacDonald was sending back to Chamberlain from Dublin, and the letter - with its fulsome desire to be of assistance and its gloss of truth about de Valera - received no reply.

Nothing, however, could have equalled the sense of betrayal that Craigavon felt when he received details from Chamberlain of the Dublin negotiations. He fired back a cypher telegram to London, a proud, impudent, explosive message of a kind that no Northern Ireland minister had ever before sent to the Imperial Government:

"Am profoundly shocked and disgusted by your letter making suggestions so far reaching behind my back and without any pre-consultation with me. To such treachery to loyal Ulster I will never be a party."

Churchill's War Cabinet, however, had moved forward in their professed commitments to Irish unity. The declaration accepting the principle of a United Ireland was now strengthened by an additional clause specifying that "this declaration would take the form of a solemn undertaking that the Union is to become at an early date an accomplished fact from which there shall be no turning back."

For Britain, the surrender of Northern Ireland to Eire might be a necessary sacrifice to secure her own safety - to reinvest for a few years that 500-mile semi-circle of Naval defence - and it was one which the British Government could propose in all seriousness in the summer of 1940. If Northern Ireland was a "loyal province" to Churchill, it could appear to other British ministers as a 19-year-old anachronism whose people would not "refuse to play their part" in the unity of Ireland if this was in Britain's best interest.

In Northern Ireland itself, such considerations were unacceptable. Protestants who professed loyalty to the United Kingdom were in no mind to demonstrate this faithfulness by dismantling their Government. Craigavon's ministers had directed their energies towards the survival of their province; to seek its demise with the help of another nation was, therefore, not just an act of infidelity on Britain's part, but of "treachery" as well.

It must have been almost a relief for Chamberlain when, on July 5, he received de Valera's curt and formal rejection of Britain's offer of Irish unity. The amended proposals for the Union of Ireland had been considered by the Irish Government, wrote de Valera, but:

"The plan would commit us definitely to an immediate abandonment of our neutrality. On the other hand, it gives no guarantee that in the end we would have a United Ireland, unless indeed concessions were made to Lord Craigavon opposed to the sentiments and aspirations of the great majority of the Irish people. Our present constitution represents the limit to which we believe our people are prepared to go to meet the sentiments of the Northern Unionists, but, on the plan proposed, Lord Craigavon and his colleagues could at any stage render the whole project nugatory and prevent the desired unification by demanding concessions to which the majority of the people could not agree."

The occasion was never to occur again. Within six months, both Craigavon and Chamberlain would be dead. MacDonald, thinking that "perhaps Churchill wanted to get rid of me", was dispatched to Canada High Commissioner. Henceforth Churchill and de Valera would face each other without intermediaries. The border - the scar of partition for those who denied its legality - would remain, and the world war would now give it a new and enduring permanence that would permit it, 30 years later, to burst upon Craigavon's descendants with a violence of which neither Churchill nor de Valera could ever have conceived.

Tomorrow: How Hitler planned Operation Green, the invasion of Ireland

Nothing could have equalled the sense of betrayal Craigavon felt... he fired back a proud, explosive message

with a formal plan for the unification of Ireland and the entry of Eire into the war on the Allied side. It was the first substantive offer of a United Ireland to be sent to de Valera, and the British Government promised that it would "at once seek to obtain the assent... of the Government of Northern Ireland" if the plan was acceptable to the Irish Cabinet. There were six clauses:

1. A declaration to be issued by the United Kingdom Government forthwith accepting the principle of a United Ireland.

2. A joint body including representatives of the Government of Eire and the Government of Northern Ireland to be set up at once to work out the constitutional and other details of the Union of Ireland. The United Kingdom Government to give such assistance towards the work of this body as might be desired.

3. A Joint Defence Council repres-

intended to put considerable pressure upon the elderly Craigavon if he opposed the scheme. "I do not believe", Chamberlain told the British Cabinet in disingenuous fashion, "that the Ulster Government would refuse to play their part in bringing about so favourable a development."

In Dublin, MacDonald presented the British Government's offer of Irish unity to de Valera, reading the text aloud because de Valera's eyesight was so bad that he could decipher the document only with great difficulty.

MacDonald argued that the declaration, which would already have received the agreement of the Northern Ireland Government, would settle the issue of unity. "It would be most dishonourable", he said, "if that declaration of policy were broken afterwards. It was unthinkable that the promise should be broken."

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Joining forces

Alan Lee Williams, director-general of the English-Speaking Union, is to take leave when the general election comes to work as *chef de cabinet* for Dr David Owen. Williams, who lost his seat as Labour MP for Hornchurch in 1979, was closer in Parliament to Denis Healey - whose parliamentary private secretary he was for a time - than to Owen though he and Owen reviewed each other's books on defence matters in mutually ecstatic terms before joining forces in the Manifesto Group. Williams says he has no immediate ambition to return to the hustings on his own account, though he does not rule it out "eventually".

Out of favour

Some indication of the state of preparedness for a general election may be drawn from John Brennan's experience trying to get party rosettes to illustrate the cover of his forthcoming book, *The Political Point*. The Tories had plenty in stock, 90p each. The Liberals would have to order specially: only 35p each but 25 minimum. The SDP had none, did not know when they would be getting them, or how much they would cost. Labour did not know if they would be having any, but suggested: "Try Arsenal football ground. Their colours are the same."

Wendy Perrott writes from Katmandu to tell me that the Mount Annupura Hotel in Pokhara, West Nepal, advertises itself as "The Last Resort for Travellers".

Promissory note

When Sir Peter Wakefield retired last year as British Ambassador to Belgium he asked for a concert featuring Barry Tuckwell as his farewell present. Embassy staff happily chipped in and the Australian horn player was flown out to Brussels. Tomorrow Tuckwell repays the compliment by playing at a fund-raising concert at the Barbican for the National Arts Collection Fund. The director of the fund is Sir Peter Wakefield.

Watch your step

At an earnest meeting yesterday to discuss the problems of step-parents, someone asked whether there was any recommended reading on the subject. Yes indeed, was the reply: for step-mothers *The Sound of Music*, and for step-fathers *Lolita*.

BARRY FANTONI



Community spirit

Further to my competition announced yesterday, for a more imaginative design for the European flag, I notice that British members of the European Parliament socialists group received the following guidance note about the report which proposed the adoption of the Council of Europe flag: "Nothing will be found in the report that need trouble the socialist conscience - although a red rose within the circle of gold stars would be most welcome." There is an idea for a start, though it suggests boozers rather than bureaucrats. It was a misprint of course. They really meant a red rose, the symbol of socialist parties in many European countries. I am sure we can do better than that.

Raising a storm

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution has hoisted distress signals about my note of Saturday, which had it conducting a poll offering lifeboatmen the option of retirement at 50. The questionaire, sent to all lifeboat station secretaries, coxswains and coxswains, is the work of a hoaxter who has been plaguing the RNLI with similar fabrications for a year. I am sorry to have raised a false alarm.

What is known as "the Buzby effect" is going to make life more and more difficult for triphone owners. Increasing numbers of birds are adopting the triphone's electronic warble as part of their repertoire of song. It started with starlings, but has now spread to song thrushes and blackbirds. Peter Slater of Sussex University used a seismograph to compare the new song song by a thrush and the sound of a triphone: frequency, modulation rate and the timing of phrases were almost indistinguishable. Birds which learnt to imitate triphones installed near the nests in which they were raised may now be teaching whole generations of Buzbys to join British Telecom's avian advertising force, with the effect that subscribers will continually be rushing to answer a call.

PHS

Lead: put the ban in top gear

by Des Wilson

The Government decision to accept the advice of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution that lead should be phased out of petrol is very welcome. Equally important, the Government and the multi-national industries should learn the crucial lessons from this controversy.

The first is that people place a much higher priority on environmental protection than the authorities and industry realize. The Royal Commission took up the issue only because of public concern, though ministers initially treated this concern with arrogance and assumed that it would soon blow over. One of the real gains from the success of the campaign to eliminate lead from petrol is that environmental issues generally will now be placed higher on the political agenda.

The second lesson is that there are limits to the role of scientific research in policy making. It has become clear that the advice given early in 1981 by Whitehall's own Chief Medical Officer, Sir Henry Yellowlees, was prophetic: "Truly conclusive evidence may be unobtainable and it is therefore doubtful whether there is anything to be gained by deferring a decision until the results of further research become available."

The public have now demonstrated that they expect decisions to be taken on the basis of prudence, and where the evidence of risk is substantial, as in this case, they expect the necessary action and will pay the price.

That said, I do not believe the issue of lead-in-petrol is completely resolved. First, the Royal Commission says that lead-free

petrol should be available by 1990 at the latest. This really will not do. Either the Royal Commission's call for "a substantially greater safety margin for the population as a whole" is justified, or it is not. If it is, then a definite and earlier date should be fixed. To parents of babies born this year and next, 1990 and the promise of greater safety for the next generation of children is hardly satisfactory.

We do not want to see the petroleum or car manufacturing industry harmed any more than is necessary to make their products pollution-free. They must be given reasonable time to make the transition. But we are concerned that they will try to create all sorts of technical and economic obstacles to early action.

Already, their view of the costs and problems involved contrasts sharply with that of the Royal Commission. The Campaign for Lead-Free Air (Clear) does not have the benefit of its opponents' technical and propaganda resources, but nevertheless believes that those costs and difficulties were exaggerated. There is no question where the Royal Commission stands: "The most practical means of eliminating lead would marginally increase overall energy demand if other factors were assumed to remain constant. But by the time the changeover takes place, any such energy penalty, besides being small in absolute terms, would be completely swamped by continuing improvements in car efficiency

and fuel economy. On a national basis it is highly improbable that removing lead would be reflected in any higher absolute expenditure and the impact on the individual motorist would be very small".

The Royal Commission recommends that ministers should call in the car manufacturing and oil industries to establish a timetable. Why cannot those whose endeavours have led to this decision also be involved? Why do these decisions always have to be left to the very people who have tried to postpone them and who, in this case, blundered in 1981 with the decision to proceed only to 0.15 grams per litre?

Third, while I accept that it makes sound sense to seek a Europe-wide initiative on this issue, and ministers should seek urgently to persuade our European partners to act together, Brussels has a remarkable capacity to delay action, and we cannot abdicate responsibility for the health of our children to others. We must press urgently for EEC-concerted action; if that does not come, we must proceed without it.

The ministers concerned will no doubt say they have committed themselves and we should trust them to act. They should recall that for 18 months they rejected our every argument, often distorted the evidence to their own advantage, and persistently claimed that their own policy was correct. They should not be surprised that scepticism remains about their determination to act with resolution.

The author is chairman of Clear and of Friends of the Earth.

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The Tate's collection of Turners will come a step closer to a home of its own today when the Queen Mother unveils the foundation stone of the Clore Gallery. Deyan Sudjic examines the record of James Stirling, the gallery's controversial architect



The man behind the Tate's new work of art

James Stirling is an architect whose work provokes such paroxysms of fury among such a range of critics that he must undoubtedly be getting at least something right. When Roger Scruton for example used this page recently to attack modern architecture - "after CND and the Argentines, the greatest threat facing Britain today" - he claimed that Stirling's was the ample figure he had in his sights.

It was Stirling who designed the remarkable Cambridge University history library; in the eyes of right-wing Spectator readers, a far more unforgivable sin than any amount of developer's hit-and-run artwork.

From the opposite end of the political spectrum, the monumentalism of Stirling's recent work has stirred some defenders of orthodox modernism to accuse him of "fascism". His columns, massive masonry and formal planning all struck of Speer and the Third Reich, they claim. Stirling's champions are equally given to overstatement. The American Philip Johnson has called him "the world's greatest living architect".

It has taken all of Stirling's highly developed sense of irony to survive. What other serious, 57-year-old professional would have the nerve to allow himself to be photographed for

the cover of a colour supplement building a sandcastle, kitted out with bucket, spade and knotted handkerchief? Stirling's greatest claim to attention, however, is his remarkable ability to go on inventing style after style, which legions of imitators go on struggling to reproduce years after the master has moved on to other things.

He began with a couple of essays in Brutalism, dabbed with system building, tried high tech, and is now ransacking history for inspiration. And still he gives every impression of being about to move on yet again, always well ahead of the field. He is, in short, an original; and originals are never comfortable to have around.

Today the Queen Mother unveils the foundation stone of the new Clore Gallery, being built to Stirling's design to house the Tate's Turner collection. It is his only prominent commission in London to date, occupying a conspicuous position overlooking the Thames, attached to the Tate's existing facade. And it is also one of his most significant designs, marking the coming of age of post-modern architecture in Britain.

Despite Stirling's enormous reputation overseas, measured by many commissions in West Germany,

Italy and America, he has built nothing at all at home since 1976. It is as if Graham Greene had been writing exclusively in Spanish for the past 10 years. The fact that the Tate's trustees should have chosen Stirling at all is evidence of the glimmerings of some kind of renaissance of interest in architecture here.

Especially so when Stirling's design is viewed against the dismal stone box that houses the Tate's previous extension. In their desperation to get away from the blandness represented by that kind of approach, most of Britain's brighter architects have dabbled in sight gags and architectural one-liners to stave off the boredom. Terry Farrell's tinsel town gliter for TV-am's studios in Camden Town is typical, and attracted lots of publicity.

But Stirling will have much more impact in the long term. He is the first major architect of the 1960s to have come to terms with the historical legacy of architecture. He is unselfconscious about working with the planning principles of the past. But he is also mature enough to recognize that the heroic period of modern architecture in the 1930s is equally a part of our heritage.

All of this sounds like a huge burden for one small L-shaped building in Millbank to carry on its

shoulders. Judging by the drawings of the scheme now on show at the Institute of Contemporary Arts' exhibition, *Model Futures*, it is more than equal to the task. Stirling has treated every facade in a different way: anathema to the early modernists who made a fetish out of consistency, but highly appropriate for a building whose guiding intentions are respect for context.

So the main facade is classically inspired, with a central bay window, a colonnade and solid masonry walls, in deference to the character of the Tate itself. But there is also a brick-faced wing, nearest to an adjoining brick-built Edwardian structure, as well as a "modern" service entrance, free of historical mannerisms. At the corners the different approaches collide with one another in almost surreal fashion.

Inside, the gallery space has a formality that would have gladdened the hearts of the National Gallery's trustees whose search for a "basilica" created so many problems for the entrants to the National Gallery extension competition.

The whole building is difficult, not to say prickly and cussed, not unlike Stirling himself. It demonstrates the importance in fact of the individual over the conventions of style in the most potent fashion.

declaration of faith in a future Labour government.

But all the frenetic conference

activity has relegated to second place what is perhaps an even more important question: "Will the new deal actually win votes?" No serious consideration appears to have been given to the evident electoral unpopularity of an incomes policy. The Tories won handsomely in 1979 without one, and showed no interest in abandoning their reliance on widespread unemployment as the chief deterrent against wage inflation. That outlook has not seriously affected their standing in the opinion polls, yet the SDP/Liberal Alliance is making a poor showing with its policy of statutory pay curves.

The union moguls who came to

order at Rothesay privately

admit that they have an uphill

struggle to persuade their own

members, let alone the wider

electorate, that an incoming Labour

government would have to take a

firm grip on collective bargaining.

But it is argued that a Foot-Haley

cabinet would be compelled to take

immediate decisions on pensions,

unemployment benefit, and the pay

of the armed forces, police and Civil

Services. From there, it is a logical

step to guidelines for pay negotia-

tions in the private sector. This

would not be wage restraint for its

own sake, but to provide public

service jobs for the unemployed and

improve the lot of slow-faced workers.

Those who stand to lose by such

an altruistic policy are most likely to

be workers in secure, well-paid jobs,

probably working in the private

sector: the very people who deserted

Labour in droves at the last election.

On the other hand, many such

people are now on the dole. What is

not yet clear is whether their

mistrust of incomes policies and

top-level horse trading between the

TUC and Labour governments has

been overcome by the bitter

experience of unemployment.

Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

Geoffrey Smith

The fudge holding Labour together

There has been a new mood in the Labour Party since Bermondsey. It has been brought together by a common fear of displaying the disunity which remains as deep as ever beneath the surface. But on the surface the ranks have been closed.

There they were shoulder to shoulder at Darlington Mr Foot, Mr Healey, even Mr Callaghan. Mr Ossie O'Brien won the by-election by presenting the less contentious face of Labour, a very invitation to unity in himself with his encyclopedic knowledge of local faces and local issues, which are so much less divisive than broader topics.

Mr Benn has been quiet. Mr Scargill has seemed less menacing since the failure of the NUM executive to force a national coal strike over the Tynmawr-Lewis Merthyr mine. I suspect that this may have played a more important part than is generally appreciated in the partial recovery of Labour fortunes, which was apparent in last week's Gallup poll in *The Daily Telegraph*. At the Northfield by-election last October the twin ogres mentioned were "Scargill and Benn" - usually in that order. At Darlington I never heard Mr Scargill's name mentioned by a single voter. He appeared to have lost the status of a

so partly by accident and partly by design. Labour is offering a less threatening face to the public. There is an evident determination not to upset the voters this side of the election. Bermondsey stands as an awful warning of what can happen when this elementary rule of self-preservation is ignored. But for how long can this restraint last? Can even a superficial impression of unity be preserved until the votes have been cast?

When such questions have been put in the past, they have usually been related to the conduct of the left. Now they relate principally to the conduct of the right. Previously the question was whether the left was prepared to put up with right-wing leadership and largely right-wing policies for the sake of winning the election. Now what is at issue is whether the right is prepared to accept the leader it does not want and a number of policies which it deplores.

The right faces a double dilemma because it does not believe that it has either the leader or the policies best calculated to win the election. It therefore has to ask itself two questions: whether Labour's electoral fortunes would benefit more from changes in policies and leadership than it would suffer from the conflict that would be involved in bringing them about, and whether it can afford to allow a future Labour government to be lumbered with the policy commitments that have been imposed by the left.

The trouble with that is that it would require the party to fight the election with undertakings on a major issue that were contrary both to the convictions of a number of senior Labour figures and to the majority of public opinion. That would be embarrassing during the campaign and more deeply disturbing if Labour were to form the next government. But on this thread hangs the continued impression that the party is now united.

Roger Scruton

Our allies in the Warsaw Pact

A *Times* leader on March 30 pointed out that the "Brezhnev doctrine" was invoked to justify the invasion of Czechoslovakia. An alliance whose entire military history has consisted in imposing itself by force upon its constituents is not an alliance, but an instrument of coercion.

The consequences for us should not go unnoticed. The Warsaw Pact is maintained at a level of military preparedness which far surpasses anything attained by the armies of Nato. It is well equipped, massively extended, and brought under a single, and single-minded, command. There is no need for practical policy.

The nature of the Warsaw Pact is such, therefore, as to expose Western Europe to the risk of a rapid and irreversible defeat in the event of a "conventional" conflict. To avoid defeat we should have either to match the conventional capacity and political intransigence of the Warsaw Pact, or else to develop a strategy that would permit us to fight on far beyond the point of initial weakness. Since we cannot do the first, we must prepare for



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GOOD RIDDANCE TO LEAD

Nothing that can be said about lead has done more to give it a bad name than the supposed effect of even small quantities of the stuff on the intelligence and behaviour of children. Most of the thrust to the campaign for the abolition of the common uses of lead – notably in petrol, has come from the self-accusation that we allow an avoidably lead-infested environment to surround a significant proportion of our children. It is an irony that the campaign should have become increasingly influential while its first charge has become decreasingly conclusive.

The difficulty about demonstrating a causal connection between the levels of concentration of lead in children's bodies and their performance and behaviour is not merely the difficulty of being accurate about minute quantities of the substance and about the measurement of intelligence and behavioural disturbance. Other factors such as parental IQ or social conditions may be similarly correlated in a complex pattern in which it is not possible to identify the causal threads.

The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution concludes its consideration of this part of the evidence by saying, "In our view the accumulated evidence may indicate a causal association between the body burden of lead and psychometric indices, or the effects of confounding factors, or both. On present evidence we do not consider it possible to distinguish between these possibilities."

But where the science of the subject may admit doubt, the politics of the subject knows no such hesitation. It is now past the point where the onus of proof shifts from those who challenge current practices to those who would defend them. It is no longer necessary to show that a thick urban environment exposes children to the risks considered; it is necessary to show that it does not. And the second can be done no more

conclusively than the first. The children, not the lead, get the benefit of the doubt; and when the matter is put like that, who would dare dispute it?

The report of the royal commission displays the extent of uncertainty surrounding the subject – uncertainty about the relative importance of different sources of lead pollution in the environment and of the different routes by which it approaches and enters the body, about the levels giving rise to poisoning of other harm, about the interpretation of the statistical evidence.

Constantly to stress the difficulties, the authors say, would be "an excessively negative approach". "Instead we have seen our task as making the best assessment from the existing information and drawing robust conclusions." One piece of the existing information impressed them, as well it might. The average blood lead concentration in the United Kingdom is one quarter of that at which unmistakable features of lead poisoning may occur. "We are not aware of any other toxin which is so widely distributed ... and which is also universally present at levels that exceed even one tenth of that at which clinical signs and symptoms may occur."

The safety margin is precariously small in view of the chances of running into quite high local concentrations in the environment.

That, with the rest of its assessment, prompts the commission to open a general offensive against the practices through which man releases lead into the environment, from the most particular (boys with fishing rods closing split shot weights with their teeth) to the most general (emissions from the exhaust pipes of cars).

Petrol companies and motor manufacturers have been given a lot of stick in recent years; plumbers and water undertakers considered; it is necessary to show that it does not. And the second can be done no more

A DIALOGUE BETWEEN COUSINS

For five days last week, in the Atlantic Hotel, Hamburg, about a hundred European and Arab scholars, writers, and diplomats met to discuss "the relations between the two 'cultures'" – not the two made famous by the late Lord Snow but those of Western Europe and of the Arab world.

Nothing very unusual about that. Conferences, seminars and colloquia on such themes have for some years been the staple diet of Middle East specialists on both sides of the Atlantic. Sometimes they are sponsored by private foundations, sometimes by governments. The Hamburg symposium broke new ground, however, being officially organized, as an act of policy, by the European Community on one side and the League of Arab States on the other.

It was part of a curious, perhaps unique process known as the "Euro-Arab Dialogue", launched in the aftermath of the 1973 Middle East war, when oil production cuts and the embargo on sales to the Netherlands had made Europe suddenly and uncomfortably conscious of her dependence on the Arab world. The Arabs on their side were anxious for greater European understanding for their point of view, particularly of course on the Arab-Israel conflict.

Those were not, perhaps, ideal circumstances in which to embark on a dialogue. The emotions most commonly felt towards the Arabs by ordinary Europeans were resentment and envy. European leaders were naturally sensitive to the accusation that they were giving in to "Arab blackmail" on political issues, while at the same time eager to secure their countries' access to Middle East oil, to the rapidly expanding Arab market, and to the Arab petrodollars available for investment. Consequently they sought to limit the dialogue to economic and technical subjects while the Arabs insisted that it must have a political dimension.

"Cultural cooperation" was almost the only thing that both sides could easily agree on, at least in principle, and one of the first joint projects to be launched, as long ago as 1977, was this symposium "on the relationship between the two civilisations". Even so, partly because the dialogue as a whole was disrupted by the crisis between Egypt and the rest of the Arab League in 1979, it took until

1983 to bring the project to fruition.

"Civilizations" or "cultures"?

"Relations" or "relationship"? Not all the problems of communication were trans-Mediterranean. The Arab participants were at an advantage in having a common language. The Europeans, having unwisely dispensed with Latin, for this purpose some centuries back, stumbled over the foundations of their regional Babel. A British participant confessed himself unable to understand the title of his own paper, provided for him by a committee whose working language was apparently Double Dutch.

It seemed almost callously frivolous to be talking culture when an Arab leader much admired by Europeans had just been shot dead in a Portuguese hotel, while an American peace plan enjoying European support had just been given the thumbs-down by the key Arab party. It may seem equally callous and frivolous to be writing about such things now, when yesterday the corps of Arabs and Americans lay across each other in the visa section of the American embassy in Beirut.

Yet such events, while they illustrate the difficulty of dialogue, also emphasize its necessity. Part of the trouble with the Euro-Arab relationship is precisely that too often we see each other only through the prism of conflict – especially in recent years the Arab-Israel conflict, with its various ramifications. Arabs see Europeans as unrepresentative, crusader-colonizers and incompatible Zionists. Europeans see Arabs as wild fanatics, always stirring up trouble and unwilling to let Jews live in peace. Neither image is without its kernel of reality, yet both distort because they leave so much out, and as they influence behaviour on both sides, they tend to be self-fulfilling.

A similarly "functionalist" view of Islam was sketched by Mr Kamal Abul-Magd, an Egyptian former information minister, but he too warned that Islam can play this role only if it turns its back decisively on cultural isolation. It needs a dose of old-style secular optimism, to convince oneself that that is what is happening in the Arab world at present, but with people like Mr Abul-Magd around there is still hope.

It is salutary anyway to be reminded that Arab-Islamic civilization is not something alien to us but another branch grown from our own roots. As Professor Jan Brugman of the University of Leiden put it, "a Sino-European dialogue would be friendly enough, but not the same thing. Our dialogue is not between strangers, but between cousins."

Probation service pay concern

From Lord Wells-Pestell and others

Sir, We write to express our concern at the decision of the Home Secretary to cut the pay for persons starting training for the probation service in 1983. The present scale, which is dependent on age and experience, starts at £4,551 and rises to £5,329. It is to be replaced by a new scale starting at £3,588 and rising to £5,382. Every trainee will be worse off. Those most affected will be those starting on the bottom scale, which will be over £960 per annum less.

The National Association of Probation Officers has used every possible argument against this proposal. Meetings with Home Office officials and with the minister responsible have produced no change of opinion. On December 13 last, a lengthy debate in the House of Lords, in which signatures of this letter and others took part, failed to make any impression on the Government.

The Home Office has stated that it believes the number of those wanting to train for the probation service is sufficiently high to enable it to reduce the pay. With very high unemployment this is a truism which might be applied to many kinds of employment, but we are unaware of any other instance of such cuts having been made.

As regards the probation service, we are very concerned about the resentment which this decision has caused among its members. We are also concerned about the prospects of attracting the right sort of person. We believe it to be very important to attract mature men and women to play in exporting Britain. It is to be noted that the governments of virtually all European countries have long accepted that their film industries deserve favourable treatment for similar reasons.

In the context of the immense international publicity and debate surrounding *Gandhi*, the extraordinary success of *Chariots of Fire* and the diplomatic furor attending *Death of a Princess* not too long ago, it is hard to comprehend the need to argue yet again that the production of good British films must be the concern of government for reasons which go far beyond the issues of employment, steady or casual.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES QUINN,
Creston Cottage,
108 Marine Parade,
Brighton, Sussex.

April 13.

From the Managing Director of the National Film Finance Corporation

Sir, In his under-researched piece in *The Times* on April 13 David Hewson does not mention that a short film backed by the National Film Finance Corporation and Virgin Films, *A Shocking Accident*, also won an Oscar. Did he not know? Or was it not worthy of mention?

Yours faithfully,
WELLS-PESTELL,
ALLAN OF ABBEYDALE,
DONALDSON,
ELYSTAN-MORGAN,
JANE Ewart-BIGGS,
JOHN FOOT,
JOHN HUNT,
WIGODER,
House of Lords.

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From Mr Clive Hollands

Sir, Your report on the joint proposals submitted to the Home Secretary on animal experiments by the British Veterinary Association, the Committee for the Reform of Animal Experimentation and the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments (April 15) did not refer to the most important element in the proposals which rely almost entirely for their effectiveness on the "pain clause" which governs what may be permitted in terms of the infliction of suffering in relation to the purpose of the experiment.

This "pain clause", which is the absolute minimum acceptable in new legislation, would permit the infliction of pain, suffering or distress of no more than trivial intensity and momentary duration unless the procedure was judged to be of exceptional importance in meeting the essential needs of man.

Yours sincerely,
CLIVE HOLLANDS, Secretary,
Committee for the Reform of
Animal Experimentation,
10 Queen's Square,
Edinburgh.

April 15.

From Mr P. L. C. Diggory

Sir, There is now pretty firm evidence that the primary, though probably not only, mode of action of the intra-uterine device takes place after fertilisation. This is most certainly true of hormone-impregnated intra-uterine devices which enjoy extensive use worldwide but not greatly in this country.

It is now, therefore, a matter of urgency that doctors should be assured that the use of these devices does not constitute a breach of the law.

Yours faithfully,
PETER DIGGORY,
Kingston and Esher Health
Authority,
Kingston Hospital,
Wolverton Avenue,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

Aid to Third World

From Mr John R. Clapperton

Sir, Professors Bauer and Yamey (feature, April 11) may possibly be right in their criticisms of the aid programme to the Third World.

Bearing in mind that one person in four in the world suffers from malnutrition, while there is a surplus of food in the developed world, we have what amounts to mismanagement on a global scale. I expect to see at least one positive alternative suggestion as to how this problem could be solved.

I looked in vain. Every suggestion made was negative.

What should we do? Let the undernourished starve?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. CLAPPERTON,
2 Pearce Grove,
Edinburgh.

April 13.

Powys review

From Professor G. R. Wilson Knight

Sir, In his review of *The Powys Brothers* (April 7) Mr Bryan Rogers highlights for his purpose a selection of biographical facts, drawn from Mr Graves's comprehensive survey.

Tolstoy's account of the events in King Lear in support of his aspersions on Shakespeare comes to

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Film-making a government concern

From Mr James Quinn

Sir, Mr David Hewson, in his otherwise perceptive article (April 13), remarks that "no one has yet explained adequately why the cinema industry is more deserving of favourable treatment than, say, makers of ball bearings..."

Comparisons, to be of value, should compare like with like. It may well be that the ball-bearing industry offers "steeper" employment for more people", but whether true or untrue is this more important to Britain than the impact of its films – in cinemas and on television – on the minds of millions throughout the world?

Furthermore, trade follows the flag, it is said. Thus the promotion of our image abroad is of paramount importance on several counts. The Foreign Office recognized this truth when it set up the National Panel for Film Festivals in 1966, under Professor (now Lord) Briggs to promote the best of British short films at international film festivals. The work of the panel has now been taken over by another voluntary body under the aegis of the British Council.

In creating its new advisory committee, whose brief includes television and video as well as films, the council has made plain its belief that in the "context for influence" – to borrow one of its own phrases – the moving image has a vital part to play in exporting Britain. It is to be noted that the governments of virtually all European countries have long accepted that their film industries deserve favourable treatment for similar reasons.

In the context of the immense international publicity and debate surrounding *Gandhi*, the extraordinary success of *Chariots of Fire* and the diplomatic furor attending *Death of a Princess* not too long ago, it is hard to comprehend the need to argue yet again that the production of good British films must be the concern of government for reasons which go far beyond the issues of employment, steady or casual.

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This not only displays a romantic naivety, but gives ammunition to Sir Keith Joseph and the others who assume that all teachers ought to "work minor miracles", i.e., achieve good examination results, in all classes regardless of the size and conditions.

Of course there are "gifted" teachers who can do good work in bad conditions, but most teachers, being only conscientious, hardworking and dedicated, find that they can work better in good conditions, with

smaller classes, sufficient textbooks and materials and in pleasant surroundings.

No doubt a doctor, immured in

some African hut, equipped with a stethoscope, broken hypodermic syringes and a bottle of TCP would do as good a job as he could, but can anyone seriously doubt that he would be able to do a far better one with a modern clinic and the best equipment?

The myth of the brilliant teacher

working miracles in the Nissen hut needs to be exploded. Keith Joseph may demand dedication, hard work and competence from all teachers, but he has no right to expect miracles.

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CLIVE HOLLANDS,
Secretary,
Committee for the Reform of
Animal Experimentation,
10 Queen's Square,
Edinburgh.

April 13.

Desirable residence

From Sir Anthony Lousada

Sir, When chairman of the advisory committee of the Government Art Collection I was concerned with the provision of works of art for the Government estate at home and abroad. I suggest that the

Investment
and
Finance

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Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 695.0 down 0.5
FT Quits: 82.19 up 0.10
FT All Shares: 441.52 up 2.0
Bargains: 25.812
Tring Hall USM Index: 172.9
up 0.5
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Average: 8,582.53, up 30.37
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index,
1,040.97
New York: Dow Jones Average
1,722.21 up 0.87 of a point.

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5615 up 1.35
cents
Index 83.8 up 0.9
DM 3.8325
Fr 11.51
Yen 371.75
Dollar
Index 122.8 up 0.3
DM 2.4595 up 210 pts
Gold \$441.50 up \$4
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$443.00
Sterling \$1.5620

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates
Base rates 10
3 month interbank 10%
Euro-currency rates
3 month dollar 91.93%
3 month DM 51.45-52
3 month FF 15.5%

ECDF Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period March 2 to April
5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

T S L Therm. Sys. 88p. up
15p
Johnson & E. 10p. up 2p
Auto. Prod. 33p. up 6p
M T B (Mangrove) 23p. up 3p
Atlanta Bell. 142p. up 18p.
S. W. Wood 16p. up 2p
Blackhawk Hedge 24p. down
3p
Whiteway Watson 11p. down
1p
T. Borthwick 23p. down 2p
Sofia Viscoose 35p. down 3p
Whitlock Mar. 55p. down 3p
Carpets Int. 50p. down
35p

TODAY

Interview: Stewart Nairn.
Finance: Aberthaw Cement,
Alva Inv. Tst. Bank of Scotland,
Crowther (John), Cussons
Property, First Charlotte
Asses Tst. Hamro Life Assur-
ance, Harrison Cowley, High-
land Elecs, Savoy Hotel, Tate
of Leeds, Tilbury, Tove, Web-
ster.

UDS seeking
135p a share

There were indications last night that the board of UDS, the stores group, would be prepared to change its mind and recommend the takeover terms offered by Hanson Trust, instead of those offered by rival bidder Bassishaw. If Hanson raised its cash offer from 133.5p to 135p per share.

The closing date for Hanson Trust's last offer of 133.5p in cash for each UDS ordinary share is Friday and the company has already won acceptances from 25 per cent of UDS shareholders. But the UDS board has made it clear that it had more faith in the written assurances over the future of the group and its employees made by Mr Gerald Ronson's Bassishaw Investments consortium, than those given by Hanson.

• £35m ISSUE: Applications open on Thursday for an issue of £35 million of City of Bristol 11½ per cent red stock 2008 at £98. The stock is offered 20 partly paid with the balance due on October 12. Brokers Butler, Laing & Crukshank and Pember & Boyle have agreed to take up half of the issued capital.

• KITZ STAKE: Brokers Rowe & Pitman yesterday placed the remainder of Charter Consolidaed's stake in rival mining finance house, Rio Tinto Zinc, worth around £51m. The 9.1 million shares were placed with various institutions without too much trouble at 56.2p a share. Earlier this year Charter sold a further 1.15 million shares for about £6m.

Market report, page 22

• INDUSTRIAL: AID: Government approval has been given for the English Industrial Estates Corporation to spend £27m on new industrial and commercial projects in assisted areas within England during 1983-4.

• £50m EUROBOND: BOC International is raising £50m through a Eurobond issue maturing in 1991. The coupon is 11½ per cent and the bonds cannot normally be redeemed before maturity.

Wall St stocks turn lower

From Bailey Morris, Washington

New York (AP Dow Jones) - Wall Street stocks turned lower. The Dow Jones Industrial average was off about 1½ points compared with its early gain of 1½.

Losers moved ahead of advances by about 50 issues.

Trading was active.

Mr Gene Jay Seagle, director of Technical Research for Herzfeld & Stern, said: "There are enough doubting Thomases around to keep the market in check. They cause waves of profit-taking and shorting as we climb toward the 1,200 level."

Mr Seagle said: "We have had a hefty consolidation going back to the November top and carrying to the January bottom. It has been completed. I see no reason to expect anything like a 100 to 150-point setback that has been so commonly looked for. Those who feel that we need more volume are getting it."

Digital Equipment was 127½ off ½. Eastman Kodak 81½ off ½. Upjohn 53½ off ½.

American Hospital Supply 48½ off ½. General Mills 52½ off ½.

Teladyne 145 off ½. Texas Instruments 162½ off 1½.

Motorola 112½ off ½.

General Dynamics was up 5% to 48½. NCR up 2½ at 114½.

General Electric up 4 at 109½.

General Motors off ½ at 63½.

American Telephone & Telegraph up ½ at 67½. Standard down 2½ at 46½, and American Express down 1½ to 67½.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board, in a break with the Reagan philosophy has recommended a policy of modest intervention in currency markets to control the erratic dollar.

He proposed the policy of limited intervention during a private address to members of the prestigious Trilateral Commission, which is holding an annual three-day conference in Rome.

The Reagan Administration has come under increasing pressure on fluctuating exchange rates, a topic which is expected to be a priority at the Williamsburg economic summit next month.

The Administration is being pressed to reconsider its strict policy intervention in currency markets.

This limited intervention had

Protest over Fraser board circular

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Another row erupted yesterday between Lordon and the House of Fraser over a circular from Lordon advising shareholders of the stores group to support a demerger of Harrods.

The circular, issued by Lordon's two representatives on the House of Fraser board and carrying the stores group's letterheading, was immediately denounced by Professor Roland Smith, House of Fraser chairman.

He described it as "glamorously superficial" and full of selective quotations designed to mislead shareholders. He added: "We deplore the unauthorized use of the letterheading of the company. We are advised it is improper and are consulting our lawyers."

The two Lordon representatives, Lord Duncan-Sandy and Mr. Roland "Tiny" Rowland, who make clear in the circular that the House of Fraser directors are expressing a contrary view to the rest of the board, say that there would be big advantages in demerging Harrods from the rest of the stores group.

Lordon's two representatives say that the Harrods board could be able to raise standards and realize the full potential of the store if it was independent.

Their circular says shareholders would benefit through a higher combined share price with Harrods commanding a high price/earnings ratio.

The House of Fraser investment programme is also sharply criticized.

"In the last five years there has been a 26.2m of capital expenditure, has been invested in Harrods, while £90.5m has been invested in the rest of the group.

There is now no danger of a price war," Dr. Mame Saeed Al-Otaibi, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates and chairman of the sponsoring conference, said at a press conference. Open's 13 member countries were not cheating on either price or production levels, as had happened in the past, and oil demand was likely to recover strongly in the last quarter of the year, leading to a firming of prices.

Dr. Otaibi later had another meeting with Mr. Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, continuing the series of contracts between Britain and leading Open ministers.

Dr. Humberto Calderon Berti, the Venezuelan energy minister, is also scheduled to have discussions with Mr. Lawson on Wednesday.

Department of Energy officials were again at pains yesterday to deny that Britain was contemplating any deals with Open, and said that Mr. Lawson's conversations with Dr. Otaibi had been little more than a "friendly chat".

Claims over the weekend by United Arab Emirates oil minister that Britain had agreed to restrain its North Sea oil production to help Open defuse its \$20 a barrel market price for crude oil were described in Whitehall as the result of a misunderstanding.

The Department of Energy has said that it expects North Sea production to be no higher this year than last year, but says this was going to happen anyway, and is not the result of any controls.

More than half of Sotheby's shares are in American hands, but it is not clear how much of the equity is controlled by Mr. Swid and Mr. Cogan.

£140m US deal for Rowntree

By Sally White

General Felt Industries will buy Sotheby Parkes Bernet, the fine art auctioneers, by the middle of May, Mr. Stephen Swid, of General Felt, said yesterday.

But in a remark designed to ease the fears of Sotheby's experts, who have resisted the takeover, Mr. Swid pledged that he and his colleague, Mr. Marshall Cogan, would work with the staff.

Mr. Swid said: "I am confident and I think we will own Sotheby's by mid-May." He doubted whether Sotheby's would find a "white knight" to rescue it from General Felt's £92m (£58.9m) bid.

The two American businessmen made a general offer of 520p a share for Sotheby last week. But the bid has been rejected by the Sotheby directors and the company's 133 experts have threatened to resign if General Felt gains control.

More than half of Sotheby's shares are in American hands, but it is not clear how much of the equity is controlled by Mr. Swid and Mr. Cogan.

At present Rowntree has no manufacturing business in the US, although it does in Canada.

EEC ministers fail to agree size of cut

Call for cheaper export credits

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

The need for a cut in minimum export credit rates between the big industrialized countries and the rest of the world was agreed by the 10 finance ministers of the EEC who met in Luxembourg yesterday. But they remained divided on how large the cut should be.

Consequently the European Commission, which is to negotiate on their behalf when the Organization for Cooperation and Development (OECD) meets in Paris next week, has been given little more than a watching brief for the moment.

France, which has traditionally subsidised its export credits, pressed at yesterday's meeting for cuts of up to 2 per cent on the existing minimum rates, which vary between 10 to 12.4 per cent.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the meeting that it was essential to bring investment funds from projects which would benefit the European economy.

He argued that only by tackling budget deficits, lowering inflation and cutting interest rates was there a sound basis for progress.

He believed that in Britain there would be extra demand of about 3.5 per cent this year compared with 3 per cent last year. This was the only way to check and reduce unemployment, he argued. It was no good looking to other economies to act as the "locomotive" to pull countries out of trouble.

In his view the United States' ability to control its budget deficit was the key to world economic problems. Only if world economic would interest rates come down.

M. Jacques Delors, the French minister, was concerned that the Community would not press for a large enough cut in interest rates. He said that high rates had been responsible for draining investment funds from projects which would benefit the European economy.

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Saatchi & Saatchi, advertising agents to the Conservative Party, British Airways and many of Britain's largest consumer goods companies, has produced many successful campaigns. But perhaps its most difficult image-boosting job has been the one to persuade the City of the financial merits of the advertising business.

Before Saatchi and the other high-flying ad agency, Geers Gross, came along, the City's rating of the advertising business was about as low as it could be. Now ad agencies and other creative companies in the design and public relations fields have become fashionable stocks, with price/earnings ratios of 20 or more. Suddenly the advertising world is looking to the City for finance and security, instead of selling out to American or European groups.

In January, the bright young agency Wight Collins Kutherford Scott entered the Unlisted Securities Market, in the process boosting the price of Saatchi and Geers Gross shares to their highest point of the year, as attention focused on the growth in the ad business. Now Boase Massimi Politit, one of the most highly regarded agencies with clients such as Courage, Cadbury, Schweppes, Quaker Oats and Gillette, has announced plans to seek a full listing on the Stock Exchange.

Boase will be the first agency to go fully public since 1969, the year after it was set up as a breakaway from the American-owned Pritchard Wood agency. Since then it has built up an enviable reputation for its entertaining and effective television commercials, the Cadbury Smart Martians and the "Gercha" Courage campaigns were its work.

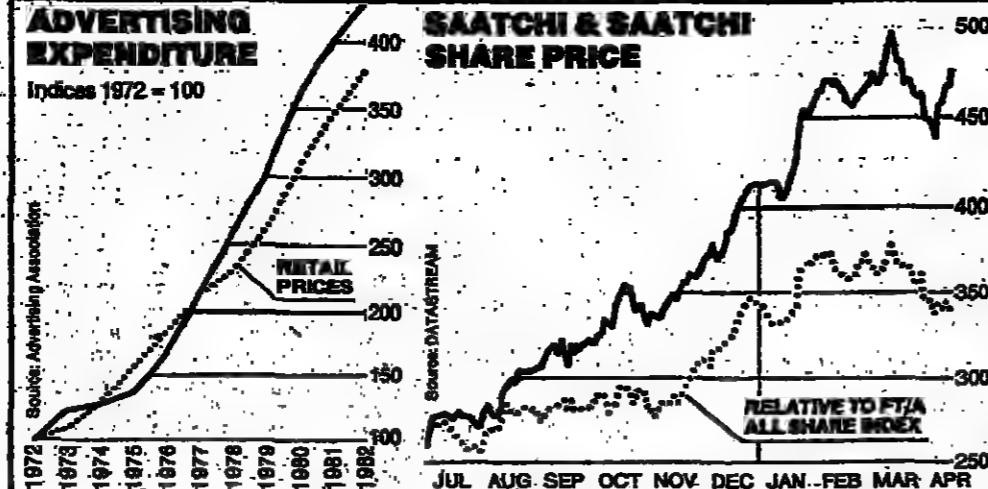
Its turnover has grown from £800,000 in its first year to £37m last year and its pre-tax profits last year were £790,000, suggesting that it could be valued at £1.2m or more. Seventy of its 155 staff own shares in the company.

Mr Martin Boase, the chairman, is in no doubt about the debt the advertising business owes Saatchi & Saatchi. "I think Maurice Saatchi has done a magnificent job in educating the City about advertising," he says. "He has managed to explode a number of myths that were prevalent - the belief that clients are constantly walking in and out of the door, that accounts are tied to individual executives and will follow them around from agency to agency, and so on."

He has underlined the fact that the top agencies are stable companies and that the agencies in the top 20 have not changed that much over the years. His has also demonstrated to the to be in hard times, has been

ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE

Indices 1972 = 100



City that advertising expenditure has held up remarkably well during the recession.

This last factor is as crucial as any in explaining the City's change of attitude to advertising, not least because it has helped to ensure that Saatchi's profits have grown regularly for the last 12 years despite the recession. They reached £5.5m last year. Advertising expenditure grew in real terms last year

Before Saatchi, the City's rating of advertising was about as low as it could be

by 3 per cent and the latest Advertising Association economic forecast is for real growth of 3 per cent this year and 7 per cent next year.

Mr Bill Seward of Phillips and Drew stockbrokers say:

"The businesses that the City thought were solid, with plenty of assets, such as engineering and manufacturing firms, have been seen to have lost of day

seen to prosper." It's all been turned on its head.

"Agencies used to have a price/earnings ratio of around three-quarters of the average. Now they are seen as premium shares."

Mr Michael Waterson, the director of research at the Advertising Association, says the change in attitude towards advertising is not confined to the City. "Marketing is now

recognised as being far more important, which is why advertising survived the recession so well. Many companies really learned a lesson from the 1974 slump when they cut their advertising budgets and found that their competitors, who maintained their spending, gained market share at their expense."

However, the fundamental reason why the recession has had little impact on display advertising is that consumers' expenditure has remained relatively stable throughout. It is sometimes difficult to believe that the worst recession that most people under pension age can remember has actually had an almost negligible effect on consumer spending, but this is nevertheless so.

Mr Seward and Mr Waterson agree that Saatchi & Saatchi is largely responsible for getting this message across to the City, mainly through its annual

report, which each year reviews the marketing and advertising business and puts it into its economic context with great flair and thoroughness, explaining the importance of creating long-term brands and examining the implications for worldwide marketing of technological developments such as satellite and cable television.

Nevertheless, as with most marketing successes, it is not merely the presentation of the advertising business that has changed, but the product itself. Advertising agencies, by and large, are far better managed now than they were at the start of the 1970s. The problems that some of the larger, publicly-quoted agencies met then served as an object lesson for the rest of the business. This little wonder in those days that the City had a sceptical view of advertising.

Long-established public companies such as Bensons and Dordands found themselves the targets of bids from companies anxious not for their advertising interests but their property. In a hectic few months in 1971, Dordands was bought by John Bensley's Barclay Securities and sold again, minus the property, to Carroll Advertising, while Bensons ended up in the hands of the American agency Ogilvy & Mather, with its property in

the hands of the Rothschild Investment Trust.

The shock waves reverberated throughout the advertising business for a long time and led directly to a tightening up of all financial aspects of the biggest agencies. Meanwhile, however, another ill-fated public company was confirming the City's doubts about advertising. This time it was a bright new agency, Kingsley Manton & Palmer,

Once regarded as not entirely serious, agencies are now seen as premium shares

which had set the ad business alight in the 1960s and went public in 1969, at around the same time as Geers Gross.

Kimber, as it became known, bought a number of advertising agencies and grew to a peak turnover of £26m in 1974, but from there it slipped.

After a number of attempts to revitalise the company it was sold in 1977 to the Morrison and Jones International, the Guinness banking subsidiary. The individual agencies in the group have since been sold off.

It was little wonder then that

it has taken until now for agencies to brave the City path again - Saatchi became a public company almost by accident as a result of its takeover of the already quoted Garland-Compton agency in 1975 - and it is a measure of the work that Saatchi and Geers Gross have done in recent years that those traumatic experiences are now largely forgotten. Pension funds now own a third of Saatchi shares.

Nevertheless, there are those who believe that the advertising boom cannot go on for ever and that it will only take one setback for the City to look anew at these glittering stocks.

Mr Keith Shepherd of Hoare Govett says: "They have got pretty fancy ratings which they've justified to date, but I wouldn't pin high hopes on an inevitable growth. There is a limited amount of resource that manufacturers can put into advertising."

It is no coincidence that both Saatchi and Geers Gross are looking overseas for growth. Geers Gross was the first into the United States in 1978 and has since grown further by acquisition. Last year Saatchi bought the Compton International network (which had links with Garland Compton) and catapulted itself into the list of the world's top 10 agencies, with offices in 37 countries and a worldwide turnover of approximately \$1.300m (£849m).

Whether Boase Massimi Politit and Wight Collins Kutherford Scott can match the performance of Saatchi and Geers Gross remains to be seen, but their decision to go public has inspired a number of other agencies to consider the idea.

Mr Boase hopes others will follow - "it would be wonderful if we could develop an advertising sector, it would improve the City's knowledge of our business even further" - but he is under no illusions about the pressures that going public imposes.

"Public scrutiny is not something we're afraid of," he says. "With agencies of our maturity of management - our top six directors have been here for 10 years - and the spread and balance of our business it can do nothing but good. That's why we've gone for a full listing and not for the USM."

Other agencies may feel nevertheless that the need for inexorable profit growth is a distracting influence on the business of running the company, making financial requirements of overriding importance. What is certain is that a great many more agency management are considering the idea.

Financial notebook

Money services without tiers

A great deal has been written about the impact of technology on the future of the market for financial services. It is widely agreed that the dividing lines between the different types of financial institutions will increasingly be blurred, but there is less agreement on the form that will emerge.

In my view, developments over the next decade are likely to be somewhat different for each of three layers of the market, but one comment is of general application. People are not interested in technology as such; they are interested in something that will make life simpler for them.

The challenge for the banks is to make their customers feel that the whole range of services in the group is conveniently available to them, preferably through people who understand their particular problems and needs.

The third layer (to whom the Hambro Life Group is directing its main attention in seeking to develop an integrated financial service) is known in the trade as the gold card market, in recognition of American Express's success in this field.

These people are interested in a particularly wide range of services, often including a share portfolio, but tend to be no better at organizing their financial affairs - indeed, the complexity of their finances often leads to paralysis in decision making and relative chaos in record-keeping. Once again the key to building up customer loyalty lies in making life simpler for them.

In my view, there are two elements in the solution. The first is the existence of a single person who can either offer advice to the customer on any of his needs or shepherd him to someone else in the group who has the expertise relating to the particular need. The second is an integrated computer system that will pull together the various threads of the customer's financial life, organizing his cash resources in the most efficient way and preparing a regular summary which gives him a clear picture of his affairs.

Providing this service will call for considerable resources of training, management and administration, but the benefit to the "gold card" customer and the group that provides the services should be substantial.

Mark Weinberg

The author is deputy chairman of Hambro Life Assurance.

ROYAL INSURANCE - 1982

US premium growth of 12% improved our market share for the second successive year. In the UK, growth of 9% was satisfactory against the background of current economic conditions.

Important developments for Royal Life in the UK in 1982 - our entry into unit linked business and the establishment of a direct sales force - will serve us well in the years to come.

Profit after tax was slightly higher at £72.9m.

Royal Insurance

Please send me a copy of the Report & Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1982.

Name _____

Address _____

To: The Secretary, Royal Insurance plc, Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR.

TT 1943



Standard Chartered



Comments by the Chairman, The Rt. Hon. Lord Barber

Profits before taxation for the year ended 31st December, 1982, amounted to £242 million, compared with £260 million the year before. The net profit attributable to shareholders, after deducting taxation and minority interests, was £114 million or 88 pence per share. The total dividend proposed for the year is 27 pence per share.

A modest improvement was achieved in our operating performance around the world in spite of the recession but this was more than offset by the large increase in provisions against doubtful loans.

1982 was a year of difficult trading conditions for commercial banking and consumer finance in most of our principal markets. The worldwide network of foreign exchange and treasury centres achieved very satisfactory results. The slowdown in the South African economy affected our subsidiary there, but the improved prospects in the closing months led to a better outturn than had earlier been anticipated. Union Bank produced creditable results in the difficult Californian market. In the Far East, the tougher trading climate in Hong Kong was exacerbated by some concern about the future of the territory.

In the early part of the year a worldwide cost reduction programme was instituted, the benefits from which will be realised in the current year, as well as instilling a generally more alert attitude to cost factors. For a bank such as ours the importance of keeping

Shareholders' Funds now £1,141 million

Capital Resources now £1,632 million

Total Assets now £24,307 million

The figure is a world map illustrating the volume and direction of international remittance flows in billions of dollars for the year 2005. The arrows indicate the movement of money from one country to another. The size of the arrows represents the magnitude of the remittance flow. The map shows major flows originating in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East, with significant amounts being sent to countries like Mexico, Spain, Italy, the United Kingdom, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, India, and Bangladesh.

**1,900 offices in over 60 countries
around the world.**

abreast of the latest developments in information technology is obvious, and we are engaged in a major exercise to improve the Bank's systems.

With such wide geographical coverage there are inevitably

changes from year to year in our representational structure. In addition to an increased presence in China, there were other significant changes referred to in my fuller Statement with the Report and Accounts.

In particular, in the United States we have formed an integrated management group to make the most effective use of the presence which the Group already has in seven major States.

Our merchant banking interests now cover ten countries. Last year we took a significant further step by agreeing to acquire MAIBL, the first of the London consortium banks, which will merge with Standard Chartered Merchant Bank.

The problems of international debt servicing for the banking system have seldom been out of the headlines during the past year. It can readily be seen now that several countries had allowed too high a proportion of their public debt to be borrowed abroad and that the prolonged recession and continued high interest rates have created a difficult situation. It will take time for a better balance to evolve, and banks with a continuing interest in the long-term health of the countries experiencing difficulties must play a responsible and co-operating role in easing the adjustment.

For Standard Chartered our concern is both with the internal health of the countries in which we operate commercial banking businesses, and with the safety of our international lending. Other than trade finance, international lending has never been a dominant feature of our operations. We have, however, a well spread portfolio of sovereign type lending, the major part of which is to countries where we have an established banking presence.

Direct banking, worldwide

Architecture and design

Drawing to a deadline

When Hulme Chadwick & Partners won a contract from London Transport to refurbish Chancery Lane and St Paul's Underground stations, Andrew Chadwick decided a computer was essential to meet the tight deadline. But with £100,000 committed and the computer equipment on its way from the United States, the projects were cancelled.

Chadwick, far from losing heart, set up a computer draughting bureau for other architects and designers. Not only would this help to recoup the investment, but he would also be able to use the system in his own business.

Three years later, Chadwick is recognized as an expert on the application of computers in draughting and design, and actively promotes their cause.

The Hulme Chadwick practice, founded by Andrew Chadwick's father, seems to thrive on the unusual. Now specializing in refurbishing old buildings and interior design, it is based in a former Bass Charrington pub in Cleveland Street, close to London's Middlesex Hospital. Much of the outside appearance has been preserved, but anyone dropping in for a pint would be disappointed, not to say surprised, for behind the Victorian engraved windows are work stations and VDUs.

In the beer cellar, barrels have given way to automatic draughting tables which sketch out an elevation or an architectural detail at the touch of a button. Chadwick soon dispenses of any suspicion that it may be too automated and lacking in creative content.

"It's a question of applying your knowledge and making computers do what you want," he says. "To me, the computer is a piano and we are the pianists. Some people think of them as pianolas, doing your job for you, but we haven't reached that stage yet. The skill of the individual in his own area of expertise is essential. If you put a man on the computer who can't draw, it doesn't mean anything."

Although the computer is only a tool, it is a very powerful one, and Chadwick has shown that its contribution to architecture and design can be invaluable. Drawing in the normal way is a kind of two dimensional shorthand for a three dimensional object. The computer translates that shorthand into patterns of zeros and ones, which represent coordinates much more accurate than anything a person can draw on paper.

"The information you produce can also be transmitted in a completely different way. You can carry it around in the form of magnetic tape, you can send it down a telephone line – a kind of drawing telex," Chadwick says.

Graphic and non-graphic data can be combined in the same process, surveyors can provide information in the form



Andrew Chadwick (centre) with colleagues Mr E. Lowinger (left) and Mr R. Watkins outside the deceptive "pub"

of a tape instead of a drawing, and the same basic data can be used to draw to different scales.

Costs can be controlled more closely, and time can be saved.

"You can do a fairly large drawing job in a quarter of the time and at half the cost, and you can use the time you've saved for better supervision of the work."

There are also large benefits if an architect or client has a change of heart. The ramifications of changing a specification are little understood outside the profession: making one alteration can generate all sorts of problems in other areas – something which a well-tempered computer can handle.

Admirers of Municipal Gothic and Bankers' Georgian may fear that the computer will condemn us to a future of Chadwick.

Roger Woolnough

Teething troubles with the Drive

Customers of Clive Sinclair who bought his Spectrum machine when it was launched a year ago have been frustrated at the wait for his long-promised and revolutionary Micro Drive. Details were published to coincide with the launch of the computer, but a variety of teething troubles have continued to delay the launch.

Now, however, the company expects to start selling the Drive within the next few weeks. To keep faith with the original mail-order customers, it will be sold initially by mail, and only when it is rolling off the production line in sufficient numbers will it find its way into retail outlets.

When it does finally arrive, it will offer a storage capacity of more than 100K, plus £30 for the computer interface.

Sharp, the Japanese electronics giant, is to launch a micro aimed at the home user, the MZ700, this summer. The machine will offer 64K ram, colour, sound, and graphics. It will be fully supported by software for the domestic user, and be compatible with software written for its big brother, the MZ80. It will slot into the highly competitive £200 to £300 range.

Computers, makers of the Lynx computer, have just concluded a financial deal which will inject more cash into the company. They are now taking on more design and development staff at their Cambridge factory and see the increased cash as a means of speeding support for their micro. Printer interfaces and a single disc drive should be available within the next two months. They have also set up their own software production company, Camsoft, and the first of their educational programs should be available about the same time as the disc drive.

If you are a happy family motorist, then I advise you not to buy one of the latest home application programs from the Reading-based software house Audiogenic.

One of its six domestic programs for the VIC20 is called Car Costs, and after questioning the driver, it will analyse the expense of car ownership, displaying the costs dramatically. The program is bound to upset motorists who fondly imagine that the cost per mile can be calculated solely on petrol costs, and not, as is done here, on the hidden costs such as insurance, maintenance and repairs. If, on the other hand, you are a compulsive figure juggler, this could keep you for hours, even costing out hypothetical trips around the country.

Geoffrey Ellis

Only man (or woman) can think

From P. T. Hobson, The Pound, Clee, St Margaret, Craven Arms, Shropshire: The illustration to Philip Manchester's article (Computer Horizons March 22) implies a question with which the article itself does not deal, but which is of fundamental importance to the future development of the human race. This question is by no means new, and was discussed in correspondence in *The Times* in 1949. This followed publication by you of

an interview with the late A. M. Turing, mathematician and computer scientist (June 11, 1949) in which he was asked for his views on the Lister Oration of that year, given by G. Jefferson to the British Medical Association.

The "Electronic Digital Processing Computer" had recently become a matter of importance to commerce, and the Oration dealt with the question, "Can a Machine Think?"

Though the brain/mind

dichotomy has been a subject of absorbing interest to philosophers from time immemorial. Descartes is generally regarded as being the father of modern development of the subject, and his famous dictum "I think, therefore I am", while denied by the determinists and reductionists and immortalized by Ryle as implying a "ghost in the machine", is not entirely rejected by many modern scientific thinkers. British academic philosophers, however, have been singularly quiet concerning the effect of modern technological development on this important question.

Words which have been used for centuries both by ordinary people and philosophers to describe attributes of the human mind are used to describe the observed performance of computers and their associated programs without hesitation: memory, knowledge, belief, intelligence, thought and thinking, perception, cognition, are used without any attempt at a limiting definition.

This use of the adjective "limiting" is of crucial importance, because it has now been amply demonstrated that the purely logical part of these various mental capacities can be readily duplicated by machines, at speeds far in excess of human abilities.

But each of these attributes involves more than purely logical processes; all involve self-awareness in one form or another, and it is significant that words such as emotion, desire, volition and feeling are not included in the literature of artificial intelligence.

Psychologists now accept that much of this logical processing undoubtedly proceeds below the level of conscious awareness, but the human mind is capable of focusing attention at will on much of this activity, and "I" know that "I" am "thinking". Does a computer, composed as it is of inanimate "chips", as distinct from the living tissue of the brain, know what it is doing?

Unfortunately, present and future generations will have been educated to believe that the answer to this fundamental question is "Yes". Already many decisions are being made on the basis of information ejected from a computing system, and one may ask, where

From Hilary Reed: Reeds, Three Stiles Road, Farnham: Looming large on your Computer Horizons (March 1) was an article which demonstrates that some experts in high tech – Mr Molyneux, "head of information technology unit of the Industrial Society" no less – have yet to emerge from the caves. The whole article, which "pinpoints the importance of the man at the sharp end", as well as its cartoon illustration, carefully avoids any reference to the contribution of many women who work at every level in information technology.

Yet again arrogant assumptions are to be read in your newspaper that important roles belong only to men. And this written by an "authority" whose title would be accurately "head of mis-information" unit.

Please be a little more careful to choose contributors who are aware of the whole of the human race, not half.

Philip Rule has been involved in computing for so long that he goes back to the days when programming was not a full-time job. He graduated as a mathematician and English Electric took him on in 1957 because mathematicians were thought to be the only people capable of programming computers.

Things have changed a lot since then. One of the software packages sold by the company which Rule runs today, Safe Computing, is a production control system which runs on a microcomputer. The potential market is huge.

"There are 15,000 companies in the UK alone with 250 employees or less who could make profitable use of it," he says.

Philip Rule stayed with English Electric for about three years, then became involved with operational research in the electricity supply industry. Manufacturing attracted him next, and by the mid-sixties he was writing production control programs. This was to prove an enduring interest.

Safe Computing is based in the Midlands, where Rule has lived since 1968. He has grown deep roots there. His home is in Lichfield, and he was Liberal candidate for Lichfield in 1974 and 1979 general elections.

He struck out on his own after a spell with Delta Meads. "I had a nice job there," he recalls. "I don't know why I ever left it."

White thinks that it could be

People/Philip Rule of Safe Computing

bureau business, and Safe has discontinued its interests in the area. Ownership of the company has also been restructured, and Chubb disposed of its shareholding last year.

Meanwhile, Rule has taken the company into new activities. His interest in manufacturing industry led to the acquisition of the computer department of PERA, the Production Engineering Research Association, giving Safe Computing a flourishing business in production control work.

One result was a software package called SafeCS, a production control system which runs on ICL machines. It will generate £1m of Safe Computing's income this year.

Next came MicroSafe, a version which can run on a variety of microcomputers. "It serves a very big, largely untapped market," Philip Rule says.

Response to MicroSafe has been high, though sales have been slow so far. "We are at the exciting time when we will see whether it's really going to take off," Rule says.

Rather reluctantly Rule agreed, and a joint venture was formed. It was named Safe Computing after Chubb's best-known product.

Chubb owned 75 per cent, but Rule was in charge. Turnover was £14,000 in the first year, and he doubled it each year for five years. Now big changes have overtaken the company.

White thinks that it could be

generating as much revenue in a year or so as the larger SafeCS package, adding £1m or more to each year's turnover. "But it could go astronomically beyond that," he adds. "We have literally hundreds and hundreds of prospects."

R.W.

by linking it to a microcomputer of his own design to give the versatile device the added dimension of communications: the Ercybridge computer allows it to be connected to VDUs, printers, and embossers and to large computer networks.

White plans to produce a version fitted with an acoustic coupler to enable people who are both blind and deaf to communicate with one another by telephone. The handset will simply fit in the coupler, and the user will communicate via the keyboard and the tactile readout.

White has also provided a "talking" VDU, an embosser and a special Braille translation program.

Braille output is generated by a high speed embosser which produces a standard Braille page in 7 seconds, or a slower device that produces a minute. The system can produce output in five standard or contracted Braille languages: English, American, Hindi, Arabic and Spanish. French and German are being developed.

The new two systems, which cost around £5,500 each, have been tested and welcomed by the Royal National Institute for the Blind. "Any device which helps blind people to get jobs, or people who suddenly lose their sight to maintain their jobs, is welcome, and this equipment is particularly good," a spokesman said.

He plans to enhance the new systems further. Now under development are packages which will enable visually handicapped people to produce error-free letters and documents.

Frank Brown

Braille production

How the blind can keep informed

One of the social benefits of microchips and microcomputers is that they can greatly improve the lives of the blind and poor sighted. Voice synthesizer devices, for example, can enable a blind person to become a typist-linked to the keys of a keyboard, they can be arranged to generate the appropriate spoken sound for whichever letter or character key is pressed. The sounds of words typed in can also be produced.

These and other technically feasible aids therefore make it possible for blind people to undertake clerical work and deal with correspondence as competently as sighted people. Hitherto, however, not much progress has been made to make this concept an economic practicality.

Now, thanks to teleprinter maintenance and the vision of a British data communications engineer, it is fast becoming a reality. The engineer, Reg White, runs a small but rapidly growing teleprinter maintenance company in the City called Ercybridge Communications. Two years ago, he was asked to maintain a Braille embossing device weighing only 8lb. It provides a blind person with a high speed, equivalent of a standard office word-processing machine.

The MicroBrailleur can function as an electronic typewriter, a portable computer terminal, an audio recorder, a data processor, or simply as a notebook. It enables text to be prepared in Braille and automatically converted into normal text. It also converts normal text into Braille without the operator needing to know Braille.

Text is stored on a built-in cassette, a standard C90 cassette being capable of storing 1,000 pages of Braille, and can be checked on a tactile readout comprising a line of 24 Braille characters each of six dots that protrude and retract. Other features include a micro-processor-controlled system for editing, indexing and searching stored data.

White has enhanced the capability of the MicroBrailleur

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM CRIPPS COMPUTING CENTRE

SYSTEMS PROGRAMMER

Applications are invited for the post of Systems Programmer in the Systems Section.

The Centre operates ICL 2977 and 2976 under VME/B, a VAX 11/780 and a PDP-11 system. Both wide and local area networking development work is being undertaken, providing links to the University of Manchester Computing Centre, the Midlands Universities network and PSS. A GEC Campus Packet Switching Exchange is also shortly to be installed.

The Systems Section is responsible for VME/B systems software, microprocessor development, general operating systems software, including user command language, networking and system services, and news/mailed lists. It is also responsible for the maintenance and development of a Unix-based system on a PDP-11 and for an ICL PERA.

The successful candidate will be developing systems software for one or more of the above mentioned systems, and a good knowledge of VME/B or VME 2900 and some Unix experience would be an advantage.

Applicants should normally have a good honours degree or equivalent experience.

Salary will be in the range £6,375-£8,550 (A) or £8,550-£9,370 (B) according to experience.

Further particulars and information forms, returnable not later than 30 April 1983, may be obtained from the Staff Appointments Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Ref. 850.

For a detailed and confidential discussion, please contact:

Richard White

Malta Technical Services Group, 334 Euston Road, London NW1 3BG

Tel: 01-388 2284

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FOOTBALL: THE STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL

Hartlepool and Wigan put the point for Maxwell

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Robert Maxwell's plan to amalgamate two third division clubs, Oxford United and Reading, next season was both weakened and strengthened yesterday. As the roar of dissent continued to rumble within the Thames Valley, two voices of support were heard amid cries for help from Hartlepool United and Wigan Athletic to the north.

Local protesters have described his idea as "crazy and unworkable" and some Oxford followers are planning a sit-in at the Manor Ground on Saturday. "I understand and sympathise with their strong feelings," Mr Maxwell, Oxford's chairman, said. "But the two clubs had no alternative, with costs going up and neither side receiving sufficient support."

"Supporters must realize that they have to move with the times," he added. "I hope the new club, the Thames Valley Royals, could eventually get into the first division and they will carry on the great traditions of Oxford and Reading. Otherwise, there will be no League football in this area."

The fate of Wigan, currently seventeenth in the third division,

will not be decided until May 17, two days after the season ends, when a meeting of creditors and shareholders is to be held to wind up the club. Wigan are more than £250,000 in debt and cannot afford to pay their players' wages.

Freddie Pye, Wigan's chairman, said: "This isn't just a cry for help. If the club cannot stand on its own two feet, it has no right to continue. We are simply being honest and it is up to our creditors and shareholders whether they push us into liquidation." The main shareholder is Ken Bates, a former director and now chairman of Chelsea.

Hartlepool, lying bottom but one in the fourth division, were informed that the case brought by the Inland Revenue, who claim the club owes them £51,949, is to be adjourned for a week. Mr Justice Harman ordered the postponement after hearing that a settlement is "very close". A lawyer confirmed that Hartlepool will probably be saved, but for how long?

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The fate of Wigan, currently seventeenth in the third division,

Merseyside united against Manchester

By Stuart Jones

A bridge of purple will tonight span the rivalry of Merseyside. The blue scarves of Everton and the red colours of Liverpool will be tied together in a common cause for if Everton, eager to strengthen their European ambitions, beat Manchester United at Goodison Park, Liverpool will be crowned the new League champions.

The chances are bright. United were fortunate to survive on their own ground against Everton in the sixth round of the FA Cup five weeks ago and, after beating Arsenal to reach the final of the competition on Saturday, are without Moran and, probably, Bailey and Grimes, as well as Coppell, Muhren and Macari.

As Bailey is suffering from a strained hamstring and his deputy, Westlands, has an injured calf, Pears may be called up for his first senior appearance in goal. Moran, who took his total of facial stitches to 82 on Saturday, will be replaced by McGrath, who came on for the last 10 minutes at Villa Park.

Everton, in contrast, have been relaxing for nine days since their victory over Brighton. United's opponents at Wembley at the end of May. They have lost only two of

their home league fixtures this season, a 5-0 humiliation by Liverpool in November and a 3-2 defeat by Arsenal on the same day their neighbours won the League (Milk) Cup.

Should Everton win, they will move above West Ham United and Tottenham Hotspur to eighth place and within reach of a place in the UEFA Cup next season. They would also gain revenge for their league defeat at Old Trafford last September when Robson and Whiteside, as on Saturday, claimed a goal apiece.

The portents for Brighton, who are gloomy, unless they collect at least one from their visit to Roker Park tonight, they will move even closer to equaling the year of Leicester City who, in 1969, reached the FA Cup final and were relegated the same season.

Sunderland's home record is scarcely worse than Everton's. It conceding just one goal a game, they have been beaten only by only one, a narrow 1-0 defeat by Norwich City in the FA Cup semi-final during Saturday's match at Carrow Road. Turner received the injuries in a clash of heads with the Norwich forward Bertsch. He will be out for the rest of the season.

Sunderland's goalkeeper Chris Turner was allowed home from a Norwich hospital yesterday after being fractured skull during Saturday's match at Carrow Road. Turner received the injuries in a clash of heads with the Norwich forward Bertsch. He will be out for the rest of the season.

United's manager, Gordon Strachan, a teenage forward, Eric Black, both in need of treatment for their injuries. But Ferguson still hopes that either Black or, less likely, Strachan can occupy a seat on the substitutes' bench.

Waterschel beaten twice in

Two-match ban and fine for Hankin

By Stuart Jones

Middlesbrough's former England Under-23 forward Ray Hankin was suspended for two games and fined £200 by an FA disciplinary commission yesterday, having received 41 disciplinary points.

He will miss Saturday's home second division match against Wolves and the following week's away trip to Blackpool Rovers.

• Derby County received two pieces of good news yesterday. First, Luton United agreed to allow their defender Kenny Burns to stay on loan at the Baseball Ground until the end of the season, and shortly afterwards the club sold their 1,000th season ticket for next season.

• Jose Havelska, the president of the International Football Federation (FIFA), had talks yesterday with the French Football Federation president, Fernand Sastre, over the possibility of staging a world indoor championship in Paris during 1985.

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Non-stop rumours leave Guineas market in chaos

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The 2,000 Guineas market was in turmoil yesterday after some of the leading bookmakers, notably Hills, Corals, and Eads, decided to suspend operations for the time being. Their reason was another spate of unsettling rumours about the well-being of both Dioray, the anti-post favourite and Diesis, the winner of the Middle Park Stakes and Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket last weekend.

During the course of the day all rumours were repeated by their respective camps, but those denials did not have a calming effect on a market which knows the meaning of the expression that there is never smoke without fire only too well. And as we have come to know, the bookmakers' intelligence service is second to none.

Surprisingly, in view of all this, Ladbrokes are still betting on the race and Hills, Corals, and Dauzatons, Diesis and Gorytus 3-1 joint-favourites, with Wess at 6-1. The Tote are also continuing to do business, although they have decided to take the precaution of offering Dauzatons to their clients at 5-2 "with a run". They then go 2-1 Gorytus 3-1 Diesis and 11-2 Wess.

The latest word from Ireland, where Dauzatons is to be trained by Vicent Fox, is that the colt is still on course for Newmarket even though it is acknowledged that he did work ineffectively last week. It will be interesting to hear how he fares today when he is due to gallop at Leopardstown.

As far as Diesis is concerned the feeling is that professionals are now fielding against him in the belief that time is running out for Henry Cecil to get him to his liking after that pulled muscle and subsequent

Epsom

Draw advantages: Low numbers best.

Tots: Double 3.10, 4.10, Treble 2.35, 3.40, 4.45.

[TVision (TV) 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races].

2.0 CUDDINGTON AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-o maidens: 21,646; 5f (6 runners))

101 IN A NUTSHELL (Mn D Doherty) D Thorne 9-7 P Robinson 7
103 99 BRENDAN'S CHOICE (D Hedges) C Wicks 9-6 S Edwards 8
104 92 BUNDABURG (Mn R Arnold) G Stum 8-5 Hills 8
105 107 ASTRAL DANCER (C Wicks) C Hedges 8-5 Doherty 4
106 108 99 CRYSTAL DANCER (Mn H Collins) C Wicks 8-5 A Dicks 7
112 112 KELLWOOD DANCER (F Doherty) H Wess 8-0 B Bradwell 5
12-7 4-7 Astral Dancer, 11-4 Mr Caudron, 8-2 in A Nutshell, 8 Dewhurst Iris, 8 Dragonets, 8 P. Robinson 12 others.

2.3 SWIFT HANDICAP (22,820; 1m 4f) (6)

201 333123 VOGANT (D) (Mn J de Rothchild) H Hobbs 4-10 P. Waldron 8
202 104000 FORWARD (D) (Mn H Dunlop) 4-9 W Carson 8
203 246123 WEAVERS (Mn M French) Mairies 4-8 5 Bradwell 8
204 104000 GOLDEN FORTUNE (D) (Mn H Collins) 4-8 5 Bradwell 8
205 810000 GOLDEN BRUGADER (W Gredley) J Old 5-0 8 Hous 8
206 330-311 RUGGED (P Doherty) D Thorne 5-7 (4-6) P. Robinson 1

11-6 Rugged, 3 Forward, 8 Vogant, 6 Golden Brigader, 10 Weaver's Pin, 8 Bradwell, 8 others.

2.30 FORGET-ME-NOT STAKES (2-y-o selling: 2672; 6f (11))

21 1228 GORDAN (R Marchant) R Harwood 9-5 P. Waldron 8
22 1250 KUWAIT TOWER (Shahzad) J Sutcliffe 9-5 J Marco 8
23 1252 SHAREEE DANCER (Markson Al Maclean) S Stum 8-5 W. R. Edwards 8
24 1253 BOYDIE (K Abdulla) True Blue 8-5 8-6 P. Waldron 8
25 1254 8-4 ARNAB (R Aden) R Smyth 8-1 W. Carson 8
26 1255 8-4 KATY K (Kerry) 8-7 8-8 P. Waldron 8
27 1256 8-4 ARKON (Alastair) 8-7 8-8 P. Waldron 8
28 1257 8-4 8-5 Zabeendar (C Wicks) 8-7 8-8 P. Waldron 8
29 1258 8-4 8-5 Zabeendar, 2nd 8-5 8-6 P. Waldron 8
30 1259 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
31 1260 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
32 1261 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
33 1262 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
34 1263 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
35 1264 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
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54 1283 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
55 1284 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
56 1285 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
57 1286 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
58 1287 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
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61 1290 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
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63 1292 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
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66 1295 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
67 1296 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
68 1297 8-4 8-5 8-6 8-7 8-8 8-9 P. Waldron 8
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

TV-am

00 **Coxfax All**, News headlines, weather, sport and traffic details.
 00 **Breakfast Time** presented by Frank Bough and Sian Scott. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15. **22a** Goodall reviews the morning papers at 7.30 and 8.00. **Keeff** and the family budget between 8.45 and 7.00; tonight's television preview between 7.15 and 7.30; report from America between 7.45 and 8.00; and horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45. The guest is Alvin Stardust. **Closedown at 9.00.**

00 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Judith Stamp. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subsides. **22b** **Pebble Mill at One**. Presented today are: Jude Lawless, the woman and Briton on the International Climbing Expedition to the Himalayas and Jean Nidetch, the American woman who is the world-wide leader of Weightwatchers. **1.45 Heads and Tails**. A See-Saw programme for the very young.

00 **Film: Slaughter Train** (1951) starring Gig Young, Brian Donlevy and Virginia Grey. A series of hold-ups threaten the fragile peace between the US Cavalry and the Navajo Indians and causes a dilemma for Captain Dempster. Directed by Irving Allen. 3.15 **Stamps from West**. **Chums**, **Bathmen** (shown Sunday 1.55). **Regional news** (not London).

05 **Play School**. Shown earlier on BBC 2. **4.45 The Record**. **Breakers** with Roy Castle and Norma McVicker (7.05). **Kensington**. The world news for young people presented by Paul McDowell. 5.10 **The Song and the Story**. It's St Clair with songs associated with urban England in the early 1900s.

10 **News with Moira Stuart** 6.10. **South East at 5.50**.

12 **Nationwide**.

14 **Triangle**. Episode five and Matt Taylor is accused of aiding an illegal immigrant.

16 **Cliff** The third of a four-part series charting the career of singer Cliff Richard. This programme features his 1961 concert tour of the United States, his first since 1960 (7).

18 **Now Get Out of That**. Presented by Bernard Falk. The two teams reach the communications cable that must be destroyed. After that they make their wet and weary journey back to base. Will they be able to make it in the allotted time?

19 **Tears Before Bedtime**. Comedy series about a married couple who run away from their children. Tonight they are 70 miles away and looking for a place to live.

20 **News with John Humphrys**.

22 **Play: Shall I Be Mother?** by Peter Ransley. The story of a fragile friendship between two young teenage girls in care at an assessment centre.

Although they are on the short list for places in a favoured teenage hostel they plan to run away together, but they separate them both. Starring Eve Garner and Cassie Stuart.

05 **News headlines**.

10 **Chicago Story: Who Needs the Truth?** The prime suspect in a vicious rape and murder case is released on a technicality and the police are powerless to stop another tragedy.

21 **Weather**.

ITV/LONDON

00 **Daybreak** with Gavin Scott. Followed at 8.30 by **Good Morning Britain** presented by Nick Owen. News at 6.00, 6.20, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15. **22a** Goodall reviews the morning papers at 8.30; **Joe Stables** with television news at 7.50; **Oliver Tobias**. Interviewed at 8.20; **agony column** at 8.30; **keep fit** at 8.35. **Closedown at 9.15.**

00 **Sesame Street**. Learning made fun with the Muppets. 10.30 **Science International**. Michael Bentine with news of the latest scientific developments. 10.35 **The Eye of the Octopus**. A city born and bred. **Zander** aged 13 is a Parker and here he has to kill an octopus (7). 11.30 **Film Fan**. More cartoons introduced by Derek Griffiths (1).

12.00 **Cooksheet Bay**, **Adventure of the Coochie twins** for the very young (7.12). **18 Once Upon a Time**. **Mark Wynter** tells the story of **Brer Rabbit's Children** (7). 12.30 **The Sullivans**. War-time drama about an Australian family.

1.00 **News 12.10**. **Thames news** 1.30. **Crown Court: Telling to the Enemy**. A journalist who interviewed an IRA terrorist is accused of not passing on information to the police (7).

2.00 **A Film** presented by Trevor Hyatt. **GI Bill** is with **Beccles Marmers**, a group of amateur players, when they visit the **Woolly Hairy Hospital** and **Woolly Chancers** talks to Dr Roger Coles of the Institute of Hearing about **thimble**.

2.30 **Racing from Broom**. **Brough Scott** introduces live coverage of the **Dean Swift Handicap Stakes** (2.35); the **Essex Blue Riband Trial Stakes** (3.10) and the **Evelyn Handicap Stakes** (3.40).

4.00 **Cooksheet Bay**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **Dangermouse**. 4.20 **Razzmatazz**. 4.45 **CB TV**. **Channel 14.5.15**. **Emmerson Farm**.

5.45 **News 6.00**. **Thames news**. 6.20 **Crossroads**. **Oliver Banks** suggests to **Sharon Metcalfe** that they buy a house.

6.45 **Reporting London** presented by Michael Barratt. There are reports on the fall and rise of the **Janet Reger legend**, business and many other Royal Agricultural Hall in Islington has remained empty for 12 years.

7.15 **Film: All the King's Men** (1974) A made-for-television movie starring **Steve Keach** as a New York banker. **photographer** who spends the night at a lonely, ramshackle farmhouse, which ends up as an ordeal of terror. Directed by **Ken Kennedy**.

8.00 **Good Night and God Bless**. Comedy series about the private life of a successful television entertainer.

9.00 **The Flame Trees of Thika**. The first of a seven-episode story based on the autobiographical novel by **Elizabeth Hussey**, set in Kenya. Starring **Hayley Mills** (7).

10.00 **News**. 10.30 **Medical Mysteries** - Who pays the price? Are doctors and surgeons over-protected when they make assumptions of negligence shown at them? Starring **Michael Ronnie** and **Patricia Neal**. Directed by **Robert Wise**.

12.00 **Top Gear** introduced by **William Woolard** from the British Leyland technology proving ground at Gaydon in Warwickshire. **Sue Baker** reports on two new ideas for modernised drivers and **Frank Page** road tests the **BMW 320i**, the **XA4**, at **Warwickshire Park**. **Headquarters** Chris Goffey learns more about the new breathalyser regulations.

8.00 **Discovering India**. This week Tony Soper shows how to decode the identity of different species and looks at the art of tree climbing.

8.25 **Just Another Day**. The last in the series and John Pitman visits the Essex seaside town of Walton-on-the-Naze.

9.55 **Dear Ladies**. **Dame Hilary Bracht** and **Doctor Eudene Hines** decide to have a picnic as well as indulge in bell ringing and fund raising.

10.25 **World Snooker**. **David Vines** with further coverage of the **World Snooker** Championship.

11.55 **World Snooker**. The final visit of the day to the **World Championship**.

12.10 **News University**. **Reading University**. 12.25 **Calculus: Functions and Graphs** 1.00. **Notes and Interference**. **Closedown at 1.30**.

12.15 **Close with Sir Michael Hordern**.

ENTERTAINMENTS

00 **What's On** (1.45) **selected for television head** (not on the back of this page). **Local Listings** **1.55** **with subsides** **selected for television head** (not on the back of this page).

00 **Opera & Ballet** **2.20** **Aldeburgh Festival** **2.30** **English National Opera** **2.45** **London** **2.55** **Teatro alla Scala** **3.00** **Metropolitan Opera** **3.15** **Paris** **3.30** **Vienna State Opera** **3.45** **Salzburg Festival** **3.55** **London** **3.55** **St Martin's Lane** **4.00** **London** **4.15** **Edinburgh Festival** **4.30** **London** **4.45** **Edinburgh Festival** **4.55** **London** **5.00** **Edinburgh Festival** **5.15** **London** **5.30** **Edinburgh Festival** **5.45** **London** **5.55** **Edinburgh Festival** **6.00** **London** **6.15** **Edinburgh Festival** **6.30** **London** **6.45** **Edinburgh Festival** **6.55** **London** **7.00** **Edinburgh Festival** **7.15** **London** **7.30** **Edinburgh Festival** **7.45** **London** **7.55** **Edinburgh Festival** **7.55** **London** **8.00** **Edinburgh Festival** **8.15** **London** **8.30** **Edinburgh Festival** **8.45** **London** **8.55** **Edinburgh Festival** **8.55** **London** 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Refugee accused of seedy past

By George Clark

Prospects for Mr Stanislaw Papasoiu, the deported Romanian, ever being allowed back into Britain now seem slim, although some MPs still think he should be granted asylum.

Mr David Waddington, Minister of State, Home Office, said yesterday: "It now appears that he was convicted of rape when he was in Romania."

He said it was one thing to consider the admission of a refugee when there were compassionate circumstances, but it was an entirely different matter when the Home Office had to consider someone with "a seedy past".

Mr Waddington said that when he was deported back to Romania, Mr Papasoiu had claimed that he had been tormented and beaten by prison officers in England. But a report from the doctor who examined him after his release from the Ashford remand centre "depicted entirely" those allegations.

According to a report published by the official Romanian news agency, Mr Papasoiu, who is 29, was sentenced to three years and two months imprisonment for taking part in a gang rape in 1977; but he was released by presidential decree after serving only two months of the sentence.

Mr Papasoiu has been expelled from Romania and is now in Austrian refugee camp. Inspite of his allegations of ill-treatment, it is possible that he will again seek asylum in Britain. The British Romanian Association and Amnesty International believe that he is a genuine refugee and should be allowed in.

Mr Waddington seems to have relied on reports put out by the official Romanian press agency, which stated that Mr Papasoiu had also been interned in Austria, Italy and West Germany, and that last year he spent six months in a French prison for theft.

Some MPs who criticized the Home Office decision last month say that the Romanian reports should not be accepted without thorough checking.

Manila fires

Manila (AFP) - About 1,500 people were left homeless after two separate fires in a Muslim neighbourhood in central Manila and a residential-commercial area in suburban Makati



Princess gets nose-rub welcome from Maoris

The Princess of Wales received a nose-rub from Susan Piper, aged 16, at a walkabout in an Auckland park yesterday. It is a traditional form of Maori welcome.

But a royal nose-rub by the Princess scored only five out of 10, according to another Maori girl, writes Granita Forbes of the Press Association.

Police are on full alert for protests by the Maoris, who want compensation for land acquired during the reign of Queen Victoria.

Dawn Petley, aged 17, head girl of the Queen Victoria School, initiated the Princess into the traditional welcome when she and the Princess of Wales attended a display by 35,000 school children at Eden Park.

After giving the Princess the greeting, which is known as *Hongi*, Dawn said: "She needs to step into seats and carpets.

The protest group, who left the glass vials hidden in the stalls, also put quick-set cement in lavatories and ripped up seats.

But if the Prince and Princess, who were a blue

silently apprehensive about the nose-rubbing ceremony. He told Susan Piper: "Please don't rub my nose too hard." He had hurt his nose in a hunting accident before the tour.

Lead-free petrol by 1990

Continued from page 1

lowed from food or even the glazing on plates. Professor Southwood said that concerted EEC action was necessary otherwise Continental lead pollution might "waft across the Channel", for example, in vehicles.

The commission called for

more research into lead in alcoholic drinks, but its main remaining concern was paint.

Removal of paint containing lead by dry-sanding could be dangerous, the commission added. Contaminated dust

could be inhaled or might settle in carpets. Although the yellow paint used to make road markings outside schools did not contain enough lead to be dangerous, local councils should be forced to use paint with the lowest possible lead content.

The introduction of unleaded petrol is likely to add one or two pence to the cost of a gallon of petrol.

Programme executives from the independent television companies had a secret meeting earlier this month with the IBA when they told the authority that the dispute was becoming

leading article, page 13

Channel 4 may face call for shutdown

Independent television financially disastrous. Now, companies may ask for Channel 4 to be shut down until the after nearly six months, the dispute over payments for companies appearing in commercials on the network has been settled, it was disclosed last night.

The companies which pay for

Channel 4 by subscription are ready to ask the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) to close it because the dispute has so far cost the about £50m in lost advertising revenue. The

companies have paid about £130m this year to finance Channel 4; in return they collect the advertising revenue.

However, present Channel 4 losses are such that many of the companies are making such small profits that they will be unable to plough sufficient money back into their own productions to maintain programme output.

Programme executives from the independent television companies had a secret meeting earlier this month with the IBA when they told the authority that the dispute was becoming

leading article, page 13

once he started discussing with slightly dubious authority on the internal politics of Popadom or wherever.

Moreover, there are highly welcome signs of growing irreverence among MPs towards the whole subject of "the Third World".

So a feature of the debates is much exchanging of compliments. Thus Mr Russell Johnson, for the Liberals, thought Mr Rhodes James's speech was "sane, humane and sensitive". Mr Rhodes James undoubtedly thought the same of Mr Johnston's.

The house was ill-attended until he rose to contribute. Those members who were present from the start seemed to be agreed that the subject was exceptionally serious and important. That could explain the low attendance. But Mr Fleeth always draws a small crowd because members are interested to see how rude he is going to be about the Government.

A combination of the subject, the fact that it was a Monday, and the absence of any division votes requiring MPs to be present, meant that the crowd was smaller than usual.

Very soon it became smaller still, for Mr Heath decided to be relatively restrained on the subject of the Government. But he was slightly rude at the start of his speech. He said that Mr Denis Healey, the chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, had been "unfair" to Mr Pym, the Foreign Secretary, by saying that Mr Pym had not put forward any definite proposals for fear of being sent to the House of Lords.

"If he were to put forward a definite proposal, then the danger of going to the House of Lords will be infinitely greater", Mr Heath said. Everybody laughed. Mr Heath looked around, rather pleased with the jest, for it was indeed a good one.

He bared his teeth and heaved his shoulders, the pose that first got him into the cartoons and into Mr Yardwood's act all those years ago, and thus established his fame. Then he subsided, and started to talk studiously about places called Chad and Mali - places which, to the average MP, sound like the side dishes you order to go with main courses in Indian restaurants.

Mr Heath remained being rude about the Government, but only in the context of being rude about all the Western Governments for not doing enough to help the Third World. This rather spoilt the fun, from the point of view of casual passers by among MPs, so it was no wonder they fled the Chamber

world economy. Mr Heath was convincing about how to do that, or at least about how to do it without also expanding world inflation.

A combination of those

earlier crooked tones of Mr Heath's, and his Churchillian way with Romance languages, made him difficult to follow at one stage. Thus he deplored the riots in So Appalling, and it was some time before one realized that this was his way with São Paulo. No harm was done.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Acts of an apostle for Third World

Yesterday the House debated the plight of the Third World.

As always when that subject is under discussion in the Chamber, the speech which aroused the most interest among members was that of Mr Edward Heath - or Major Refatia, to give him his military rank.

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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh joined the Queen's Company of the First Battalion Grenadier Guards, London, 12.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother lays the foundation stone of the Turner Museum, Tate Gallery, London, 7.15.

Princess Anne, Patron of the

Riding for the Disabled Association, opens the Elizabeth Curtis Centre for Disabled Riders, Bromley Hospital, Bromley, Bedfordshire, 10.45; as Chancellor of London University, open new galleries of the Percival David Foundation, School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet Street, London, 2.30, attends a charity evening of greyhound racing in aid of the Leukaemia Research Fund, White City, London, 7.30.

The Duke of Kent, as Chairman of the National Electronics Council, visits the All-Electronics Show at the Barbican Centre, London, 11.30, and lunches with the Council of the Electronics Components Industry Federation, Barbican City Hotel.

New exhibition

Paper as Image, Bangor Art Gallery, Ffordd Gwynedd, Bangor Tues to Sat 12 to 5, closed Sun & Mon; (from today until May 21).

Exhibitions in progress

The Story of the Artists International Association - Photomontage by Peter Kennard - Despatches from an Unofficial War Artist; Museum of Modern Art, 30 Park Lane, Free Oxford, Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Mon; (both until May 22).

Works from the Cooper Trustee Art Collection, Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley, Tues 1 to 5.30, Wed to Sun 10 to 5.30, closed Mon; (until May 1).

Steam Power: Drawings and paintings by Josephine Guissane Whitehead, City Museum, Market Street, Lancaster; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4 (until April 30).

Music Concert by Modern Jazz Quartet, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham, 7.30.

Concert by Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Cheltenham Town Hall, 7.30.

Recital by Koenig Ensemble, Leicestershire School of Music, The Rows, College Street, Leicester, 7.30.

Information supplied by the AA.

General A new permanent exhibition of coins collected by William Hetherington is on display at the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow University, from today.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Debates on Opposition motions on East Asia and on shipbuilding and ship repairing industries.

Lords (2.30): Energy Bill, committee. Water Bill, report. Debate on building societies.

4 Has a paid job as receiver taking directions (5).

5 Awkward situation, if not as Yum-Yum spent it (5-2).

6 Undo zip on a philosopher (7).

7 Confirmed for a robot record changer (12).

8 Speech-writer from the sound of it (12).

15 Committed by defector in effort to get to the east (9).

17 Footwear for cup-round kick off (7).

18 End of plane leaving Pretoria - crash landing here (7).

19 The jewel Ambrose displayed as his only possession (3-4).

20 Did he draw mirror-images for the second adventure? (7).

22 For Abram's nephew before us, a meal to forget (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,106

POCA ESCAPE PROBLEM BY RICHARD ALEXANDER LANE

TRANSCENDENT 18 CENTS FLOWERS CUT GLASS HOODED EYES

THE LADY'S LANE DECIDEDLY TELL LIES

RECAPITULATION READING

THE DUNNING

THE HAMPTON GOON

THE ATHENIAN TABLE

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 11

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending April 10:

ITV

1 Coronation Street (Wed) Granada, 18.00

2 This Is Your Life, Thames, 14.00

3 S2-1, Yorkshire, 14.30

4 Coronation Street (Mon) Granada, 19.00

5 Fair Fortune, Central, 13.00

6 Crossroads (Wed) Central, 13.25

7 Crossroads (Thurs) Central, 13.25

8 J1 Hooker, ITV, 13.00

9 Only When I Laugh, Yorkshire, 19.00

10 Carry On Laughing, Thames, 12.30

BBC 1

1 The Grand National, 12.55

2 The Kenny Everett Television Show, 12.00

3 The Park, 12.00

4 Nine O'Clock News (Thurs) 11.45pm

5 Nine O'Clock News (Thurs) 11.45pm

6 Nine O'Clock News (Thurs) 10.35pm

7 Antiques Roadshow, 9.30pm